

Cosmological 3-point correlators from holography

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Abstract

We investigate the non-Gaussianity of primordial cosmological perturbations using holographic methods. In particular, we derive holographic formulae that relate all cosmological 3-point correlation functions, including both scalar and tensor perturbations, to stress-energy correlation functions of a holographically dual three-dimensional quantum field theory. These results apply to general single scalar inflationary universes that at late times approach either de Sitter spacetime or accelerating power-law cosmologies. We further show that in Einstein gravity all 3-point functions involving tensors may be obtained from correlators containing only positive helicity gravitons, with the ratios of these to the correlators involving one negative helicity graviton being given by universal functions of momenta, irrespectively of the potential of the scalar field.

As a by-product of this investigation, we obtain holographic formulae for the full 3-point function of the stress-energy tensor along general holographic RG flows. These results should have applications in a wider holographic context.

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1 Introduction

This is the companion paper to [1]. In [1], we discussed the holographic computation of the 3-point function of scalar perturbations, and in this paper we compute the 3-point functions involving both scalar and tensor perturbations. The principal motivation for this work is theoretical. We would like to understand whether standard cosmological 3-point functions can be recast in a form that is consistent with an underlying holographic duality. Such a reformulation would provide strong evidence for this putative duality, and furthermore, irrespective of the existence of a dual theory, it would also bring in fresh intuition about the cosmological formulae and allow for quantum field theory results and techniques to be used in cosmological computations.

The first indication that such a reformulation is possible was provided in [2] where it was shown that standard results for cosmological observables in (near) de Sitter (dS) spacetimes may be obtained by a certain analytic continuation from corresponding results in Anti-de Sitter (AdS) spacetime. In turn, AdS results may be related to CFT correlation functions via the AdS/CFT correspondence. In the same paper, it was argued that the putative dual theory computes the wavefunction of the (near) de Sitter universe. Further work along these lines may be found in [3, 4, 5, 6].

These results are very suggestive but one may wonder whether they are generic, *i.e.*, to what extent do they depend on special properties of the dS background? It is well known that de Sitter is related to Anti de Sitter by an analytic continuation that takes the de Sitter time t to ir , where r is the AdS radial coordinate, and the dS radius L_{dS} to iL_{AdS} , where L_{AdS} is the AdS radius. What if one considers a general FRW spacetime? Is there an analogue of the analytic continuation between AdS and dS that one may use in order to establish a holographic dictionary?

It turns out that such an analogue does indeed exist: one can show that for every FRW solution of a model with potential V , there is a corresponding domain-wall solution of a model with potential $-V$ [7, 8]. A special case of this domain-wall/cosmology (DW/C) correspondence is the relation between dS and AdS. Moreover, inflationary spacetimes that at late times approach either dS spacetime or accelerating power-law cosmologies are mapped to asymptotically AdS spacetimes, and spacetimes that asymptotically approach the near-horizon limit of the non-conformal branes, respectively. In both cases there is an established holographic dictionary [9, 10] (these backgrounds then represent holographic RG flows), and one may hope to use it in order to relate cosmological observables to correlation functions of a dual QFT.

One should emphasise that a correspondence between highly symmetric spacetimes (such as the correspondence between the homogeneous and isotropic FRW spacetimes and the domain-wall solutions) does not in general guarantee that generic perturbations around them

will also be in correspondence, and moreover this correspondence may be violated at the quantum level. For example, the Feynman propagators of massive scalar fields in AdS and dS spacetime do not map to each other under the analytic continuation mentioned above, see for example [11].

We thus undertook the task of checking explicitly whether or not cosmological observables, such as the power spectra and non-Gaussianities for general single scalar inflationary universes, can be related to correlation functions of a dual QFT. These correlation functions are obtained from the corresponding domain-wall (DW) spacetime using the standard gauge/gravity duality rules. In [12, 13] we established that indeed the scalar and tensor power spectra are related to the 2-point function of the dual stress-energy tensor, while in [1] we showed that the bispectrum of scalar perturbations is related to the 3-point function of the trace of the dual stress-energy tensor. Here, we will complete this task by showing that all cosmological 3-point functions are related to stress-energy correlation functions.

At first sight it might appear difficult to establish such a relation for generic inflationary backgrounds, since the computation of power spectra and non-Gaussianities boils down to solving certain differential equations and these can be explicitly integrated only for very symmetric backgrounds. Similarly, the explicit computation of correlation functions along holographic RG flows requires solving specific differential equations, and their explicit integration is only possible for special backgrounds (see [14, 15] for examples). Our strategy was thus to set up both computations in a manner that makes it manifest that the corresponding differential equations and boundary conditions map to each other under the correspondence. It follows that one may recast the standard cosmological observables in terms of (an analytic continuation) of strongly coupled QFT correlators, even though one may not be able to explicitly compute them.

On the holography side, the objects that enter the computation are 2- and 3-point functions of the stress-energy tensor along general holographic RG flows. Here, by general holographic RG flows, we mean domain-wall spacetimes that under gauge/gravity duality correspond either to QFTs that in the UV approach a fixed point (asymptotically AdS domain-walls), or to QFTs with generalised conformal structure that run due to the dimensionality of their coupling constant (domain-walls that asymptotically approach the non-conformal brane backgrounds). The stress-energy tensor 2-point functions for general holographic RG flows were discussed in [16] and in [10] for the two respective cases, using the radial Hamiltonian formalism developed in [17]. In this formalism, the central object is the radial canonical momentum, *i.e.*, the canonical momentum in a canonical formalism where the radial coordinate plays the role of time. The holographic correlators are then related to the response functions, which are the coefficients in the expansion of the radial canonical momentum in terms of the perturbations. Schematically, if Π is the radial canonical momentum conjugate to the fluctuation ζ

then we write

$$\Pi = \Omega_{[2]}\zeta + \Omega_{[3]}\zeta^2 + \dots \quad (1.1)$$

The response functions are $\Omega_{[2]}$ and $\Omega_{[3]}$, and are related to the 2- and 3-point function respectively of the operator dual to ζ . Here, we extend this formalism to encompass the 3-point function of the stress-energy tensor, again for general holographic RG flows. These results should thus have applications in a wider holographic context.

On the cosmology side, the objects of interest are the in-in tree-level 3-point functions. We computed these using a Hamiltonian formalism and found that they also may be determined using response functions. The response functions in this case are defined as the coefficients in the expansion of the standard canonical momentum in terms of perturbations. Furthermore, the DW/C correspondence maps the domain-wall response functions to their cosmological analogues by a simple analytic continuation. Combined with the holographic computation described in the previous paragraph, this provides a holographic dictionary that relates cosmological observables to correlation functions of a dual QFT.

We have thus shown by direct computation that, provided the standard gauge/gravity duality holds, the cosmological spectrum and bispectrum have a holographic interpretation: they are related to the analytic continuation of 2- and 3-point functions of the stress-energy tensor of a dual QFT. Note that the DW/C correspondence can be expressed in terms of an operation performed directly on the QFT: one analytically continues the momenta and the rank of the gauge group. Thus, the QFT dual to the inflationary spacetime is defined operationally by first performing computations with the QFT dual to the DW spacetime, and then analytically continuing the result. Previous discussions for a dual theory to dS spacetime may be found in [18, 19]. Our results are also consistent with (but also independent of) the interpretation of the duality relation as providing the wavefunction of the universe [2].

These holographic results were derived by working in the regime where the tree-level gravity approximation is valid, *i.e.*, the curvatures are small everywhere and gravity loops are suppressed. A logical possibility is that this holographic interpretation holds only in the regime in which it was derived. On the other hand, the operational definition of the dual QFT makes sense at least in large- N perturbation theory (*i.e.*, we first take the large- N limit and then analytically continue) and for any value of the (effective) 't Hooft coupling constant. One may then use weakly coupled QFTs in the large- N limit in order to obtain novel scenarios for the very early universe. In such scenarios, the universe started in a non-geometric strongly coupled phase which is best described holographically using the weakly coupled QFT. This leads to an interesting phenomenology [20], and despite the fact that the predictions of the holographic models differ from those of the empirical Λ CDM model (and of generic single scalar slow-roll models), they are still compatible with current data [21, 22]. In fact, a custom fit of the WMAP and other astronomical data reveals that these models are

statistically comparable to Λ CDM. In [1], we presented the results for the non-Gaussianities of scalar perturbations in such scenarios. Interestingly, these are the only known models that lead to an exactly equilateral-type non-Gaussianity, with $f_{NL} = 5/36$ independently of all parameters of the models (unfortunately, however, this value is too small to be measured by Planck). The corresponding results for the non-Gaussianities we discuss here will be presented elsewhere [23].

This paper is organised as follows. In the following section, we discuss domain-wall and cosmological spacetimes and their perturbations, and introduce the response functions. In Section 3 we compute the cosmological 3-point functions in terms of response functions. We also show in this section that for inflationary models based on Einstein gravity all 3-point functions involving tensors are determined from the correlators with only positive helicity gravitons. In Section 4 we compute the holographic 3-point functions of the stress-energy tensor along general holographic RG flows. Section 5 contains the main results of this paper: the holographic formulae that express the cosmological 3-point functions in terms of stress-energy tensor correlation functions. Readers not interested in the derivation of these formulae may skip Sections 3 and 4 and proceed directly to this section. In Section 6 we conclude. There are number of appendices: in Appendix A, we present the gauge-invariant perturbation variables at quadratic order; in Appendix B, we collect the cubic interaction terms; in Appendix C, we discuss the helicity tensors; in Appendix D, we collect various conventions we use throughout the main text; in Appendix E, we present the constraint equations at quadratic order, and Appendix F contains the detailed derivation of the holographic results.

As this paper was finalised, [24] appeared containing a related but complementary discussion of tensor non-Gaussianities.

2 Perturbed domain-walls and cosmologies

2.1 Defining the perturbations

Domain-walls and cosmologies may be described in a unified fashion via the ADM metric

$$ds^2 = \sigma N^2 dz^2 + g_{ij}(dx^i + N^i dz)(dx^j + N^j dz), \quad (2.1)$$

where the perturbed lapse and shift functions may be written to second order as

$$N = 1 + \delta N(z, \vec{x}), \quad N_i = g_{ij}N^j = \delta N_i(z, \vec{x}), \quad g_{ij} = a^2(z)(\delta_{ij} + h_{ij}(z, \vec{x})), \quad (2.2)$$

with $\sigma = +1$ for a Euclidean domain-wall (whereupon z becomes the transverse radial coordinate) and $\sigma = -1$ for a cosmology (whereupon z becomes the cosmological proper time). Taking the domain-wall to be Euclidean is convenient since the QFT vacuum implicit in the Euclidean formulation maps to the Bunch-Davies vacuum on the cosmology side, as discussed

in [20]. The spatial indices i, j run from 1 to 3, and we have assumed (for simplicity) the background geometry to be spatially flat.

The δg_{00} metric perturbation is then

$$\delta g_{00} = 2\sigma\phi = \sigma(2\delta N + \delta N^2) + a^{-2}\delta N_i\delta N_i, \quad (2.3)$$

where here, and in the remainder of the paper, we adopt the convention that repeated covariant indices are summed using the Kronecker delta (in contrast, an index is raised or lowered by the full metric). The remaining perturbations may be decomposed into scalar, vector and tensor pieces according to

$$\delta N_i = a^2(\nu_{,i} + \nu_i), \quad h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij} + 2\chi_{,ij} + 2\omega_{(i,j)} + \gamma_{ij}, \quad (2.4)$$

where the vector perturbations ν_i and ω_i are transverse, and the tensor perturbation γ_{ij} is transverse traceless. We similarly decompose the inflaton Φ into a background piece φ and a perturbation $\delta\varphi$,

$$\Phi(z, \vec{x}) = \varphi(z) + \delta\varphi(z, \vec{x}). \quad (2.5)$$

These formulae are understood to hold to second order in perturbation theory.

2.2 Gauge-invariant variables

We will work with the gauge-invariant variables $\zeta(z, \vec{x})$ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}(z, \vec{x})$, where ζ is the curvature perturbation on uniform energy density slices and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$ is a transverse traceless tensor ($\hat{\gamma}_{ii} = 0$ and $\partial_i\hat{\gamma}_{ij} = 0$). These variables are defined such that in comoving gauge, where the inflaton perturbation $\delta\varphi$ vanishes, the spatial part of the perturbed metric reads

$$g_{ij} = a^2 e^{2\zeta} [e^{\hat{\gamma}}]_{ij} = a^2 e^{2\zeta} (\delta_{ij} + \hat{\gamma}_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\gamma}_{ik}\hat{\gamma}_{kj}). \quad (2.6)$$

This implies the following general gauge-invariant definitions (see Appendix A for details)

$$\zeta = -\psi - \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}}\delta\varphi - \psi^2 + \left(\dot{H} - \frac{H\ddot{\varphi}}{\dot{\varphi}}\right)\frac{\delta\varphi^2}{2\dot{\varphi}^2} + \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}^2}\delta\varphi\delta\dot{\varphi} + \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}}(\chi_{,k} + \omega_k)\delta\varphi_{,k} + \frac{1}{4}\pi_{ij}X_{ij}, \quad (2.7)$$

$$\hat{\gamma}_{ij} = \gamma_{ij} + \Pi_{ijkl}X_{kl}, \quad (2.8)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} X_{ij} = & \frac{\sigma}{a^2\dot{\varphi}^2}\delta\varphi_{,i}\delta\varphi_{,j} - \frac{2}{a^2\dot{\varphi}}\delta N_i\delta\varphi_{,j} - \frac{\delta\varphi}{\dot{\varphi}}\dot{h}_{ij} - 2(\chi_{,k} + \omega_k)_{,i}h_{jk} - (\chi_{,k} + \omega_k)h_{ij,k} \\ & + (\chi_{,k} + \omega_k)_{,i}(\chi_{,k} + \omega_k)_{,j} + 2\psi\gamma_{ij} - \frac{1}{2}\gamma_{ik}\gamma_{kj}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

and the transverse and transverse traceless projection operators π_{ij} and Π_{ijkl} are defined as

$$\pi_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - \frac{\partial_i\partial_j}{\partial^2}, \quad \Pi_{ijkl} = \frac{1}{2}(\pi_{ik}\pi_{jl} + \pi_{il}\pi_{jk} - \pi_{ij}\pi_{kl}). \quad (2.10)$$

Here, and throughout, we use dots to denote differentiation with respect to z , and we define $H = \dot{a}/a$ and $\epsilon = -\dot{H}/H^2$.

2.3 Equations of motion

Our action comprises a single scalar field minimally coupled to gravity with a potential $V(\Phi)$. In the ADM formalism, the combined domain-wall/cosmology action takes the form

$$S = \frac{1}{2\kappa^2} \int d^4x N \sqrt{g} \left[K_{ij} K^{ij} - K^2 + N^{-2} (\dot{\Phi} - N^i \Phi_{,i})^2 + \sigma (-R + g^{ij} \Phi_{,i} \Phi_{,j} + 2\kappa^2 V(\Phi)) \right], \quad (2.11)$$

where $\kappa^2 = 8\pi G$ and $K_{ij} = [(1/2)\dot{g}_{ij} - \nabla_{(i} N_{j)}]/N$ is the extrinsic curvature of constant- z slices. In this expression, spatial gradients and potential terms appear with positive sign for Euclidean domain-walls and with negative sign for Lorentzian cosmologies as expected.

We will restrict our consideration to background solutions in which the evolution of the scalar field $\varphi(z)$ is (piece-wise) monotonic in z . For such solutions, $\varphi(z)$ can be inverted to $z(\varphi)$, allowing H to be re-expressed as a function of φ , *i.e.*, $H(z) = -(1/2)W(\varphi)$. The complete equations of motion for the background then take the simple first-order form

$$\frac{\dot{a}}{a} = -\frac{1}{2}W, \quad \dot{\varphi} = W_{,\varphi}, \quad 2\sigma\kappa^2 V = (W_{,\varphi})^2 - \frac{3}{2}W^2. \quad (2.12)$$

Turning now to the perturbations, one may derive an action for the gauge-invariant fluctuations ζ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$ by solving the Hamiltonian and momentum constraints and backsubstituting into the Lagrangian \mathcal{L} , as described in [2]. To compute 3-point functions, we will need this action to cubic order, keeping careful track of the sign σ . The full result may be found in Appendix B.

To connect with the holographic analysis in later sections, however, it is most convenient to describe the perturbations in the Hamiltonian formalism. To this end, we define the quantities

$$\Pi = \frac{\partial(\kappa^2 \mathcal{L})}{\partial \dot{\zeta}}, \quad \Pi_{ij} = \frac{\partial(\kappa^2 \mathcal{L})}{\partial \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij}}, \quad (2.13)$$

corresponding to (κ^2 times) the canonical momenta with respect to ζ and with respect to $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$. When working in momentum space, it is useful to decompose the transverse traceless tensors Π_{ij} and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$ in a helicity basis as

$$\hat{\gamma}_{ij}(\vec{q}) = \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(\vec{q}) \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(\vec{q}), \quad \Pi_{ij}(\vec{q}) = \Pi^{(s)}(\vec{q}) \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(\vec{q}), \quad (2.14)$$

where here, and throughout, we assume the summation of repeated helicity indices over the values ± 1 . Our conventions for the helicity tensors $\epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(\vec{q})$ are summarised in Appendix C.

The full Hamiltonian may then be written

$$H = H^{(2)} + H^{(3)}, \quad H^{(3)} = H_{\zeta\zeta\zeta} + H_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}} + H_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} + H_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} \quad (2.15)$$

where the free part

$$\kappa^2 H^{(2)} = \int [dq] \left[\frac{1}{4a^3\epsilon} \Pi(\vec{q}) \Pi(-\vec{q}) + \frac{4}{a^3} \Pi^{(s)}(\vec{q}) \Pi^{(s)}(-\vec{q}) \right]$$

$$- \sigma a \epsilon q^2 \zeta(\vec{q}) \zeta(-\vec{q}) - \frac{\sigma a}{4} q^2 \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(\vec{q}) \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(-\vec{q})]. \quad (2.16)$$

The bracket notation we use here (and throughout) for the various measures appearing in momentum space integrals is described in Appendix D. The interaction term $H_{\zeta\zeta\zeta}$ may be found in [1], however we will have no use for it here. The remaining pieces of the cubic interaction Hamiltonian then take the form

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa^2 H_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} = \int [[dq_1 dq_2 dq_3]] & \left[\mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right. \\ & + \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \Pi(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \Pi(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \\ & \left. + \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Pi(-\vec{q}_1) \Pi(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Pi(-\vec{q}_1) \Pi(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right], \quad (2.17) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa^2 H_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} = \int [[dq_1 dq_2 dq_3]] & \left[\mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right. \\ & + \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \Pi^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \\ & + \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \Pi(-\vec{q}_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \Pi(-\vec{q}_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \\ & \left. + \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \Pi(-\vec{q}_1) \Pi^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \Pi^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right], \quad (2.18) \end{aligned}$$

$$\kappa^2 H_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} = \int [[dq_1 dq_2 dq_3]] \mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)} \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3), \quad (2.19)$$

where the coefficients are appropriately symmetrised functions of the helicities s_i and the magnitudes of the momenta, which we denote $q_i = +\sqrt{\vec{q}_i^2}$. The precise form of these coefficients is given in Appendix B.

In the following section, we will make frequent use of Hamilton's equations, which read

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}) &= (2\pi)^3 \frac{\partial(\kappa^2 H)}{\partial \Pi(-\vec{q})}, & \dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s)}(\vec{q}) &= \frac{1}{2} (2\pi)^3 \frac{\partial(\kappa^2 H)}{\partial \Pi^{(s)}(-\vec{q})}, \\ \dot{\Pi}(\vec{q}) &= -(2\pi)^3 \frac{\partial(\kappa^2 H)}{\partial \zeta(-\vec{q})}, & \dot{\Pi}^{(s)}(\vec{q}) &= -\frac{1}{2} (2\pi)^3 \frac{\partial(\kappa^2 H)}{\partial \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(-\vec{q})}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.20)$$

Note in particular the factors of one half multiplying the r.h.s. of the equations for $\dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s)}$ and $\dot{\Pi}^{(s)}$. These factors arise from the standard normalisation convention for helicity tensors (see Appendix C).

2.4 Response functions

Given a perturbative solution of the classical equations of motion for ζ and $\hat{\gamma}^{(s)}$, we may formally expand the associated canonical momenta Π and $\Pi^{(s)}$ in terms of ζ and $\hat{\gamma}^{(s)}$ to any given order in perturbation theory. At quadratic order, we may thus write

$$\Pi(\vec{q}_1) = \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) \zeta(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[dq_2 dq_3]] \left[\Omega_{[3]}(q_i) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \zeta(-\vec{q}_3) \right.$$

$$+ \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \Big] \quad (2.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) = & E_{[2]}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[dq_2 dq_3]] \left[E_{[3]}^{(s_1)}(q_i) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \zeta(-\vec{q}_3) \right. \\ & \left. + E_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_3)}(q_i) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + E_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (2.22)$$

where our notation for the integration measure in these formulae is explained in Appendix D. We will refer to the various functions Ω and E defined by these equations as *response functions*.

Hamilton's equations (2.20) imply the linear response functions $\Omega_{[2]}(q)$ and $E_{[2]}(q)$ satisfy

$$0 = \dot{\Omega}_{[2]}(q) + \frac{1}{2a^3\epsilon} \Omega_{[2]}^2(q) - 2\sigma a \epsilon q^2, \quad 0 = \dot{E}_{[2]}(q) + \frac{4}{a^3} E_{[2]}^2(q) - \frac{\sigma a}{4} q^2. \quad (2.23)$$

Given solutions ζ_q and $\hat{\gamma}_q$ of the linearised equations of motion (obeying Bunch-Davies vacuum condition at early times),

$$0 = \ddot{\zeta}_q + (3H + \dot{\epsilon}/\epsilon) \dot{\zeta}_q - \sigma a^{-2} q^2 \zeta_q, \quad 0 = \ddot{\hat{\gamma}}_q + 3H \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_q - \sigma a^{-2} q^2 \hat{\gamma}_q, \quad (2.24)$$

we may then solve (2.23) to find

$$\Omega_{[2]}(q) = 2a^3\epsilon \frac{\dot{\zeta}_q}{\zeta_q}, \quad E_{[2]}(q) = \frac{a^3}{4} \frac{\dot{\hat{\gamma}}_q}{\hat{\gamma}_q}. \quad (2.25)$$

Given these solutions for the linear response functions $\Omega_{[2]}(q)$ and $E_{[2]}(q)$, we may then solve for the response functions appearing at quadratic order as follows. For example, to find $\Omega_{[3]}^{(s)}$, we note that Hamilton's equations (2.20), after making use of (2.21), read

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}_1) = & \frac{1}{2a^3\epsilon} \Omega_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) \zeta(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[dq_2 dq_3]] \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \left[\frac{1}{2a^3\epsilon} \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i) + \mathcal{C}_{213}^{(s_3)} \right. \\ & \left. + \mathcal{D}_{213}^{(s_3)} E_{[2]}(q_3) + 2\mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) + 2\mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) E_{[2]}(q_3) \right] + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (2.26)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\Pi}(\vec{q}_1) = & 2\sigma a \epsilon q_1^2 \zeta(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[dq_2 dq_3]] \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \left[2\mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_3)} + 2\mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_3)} E_{[2]}(q_3) + \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) \right. \\ & \left. + \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) E_{[2]}(q_3) \right] + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (2.27)$$

where we have retained only quadratic terms of the form $\zeta \hat{\gamma}$. On the other hand, differentiating (2.21) directly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\Pi}(\vec{q}_1) = & \dot{\Omega}_{[2]}(q_1) \zeta(\vec{q}_1) + \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) \dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[dq_2 dq_3]] \left[\dot{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right. \\ & \left. + \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i) \left(\dot{\zeta}(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) \dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \right) \right] + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (2.28)$$

Using Hamilton's equations to replace $\dot{\zeta}$ and $\dot{\gamma}^{(s)}$, comparing with (2.27) we then find

$$0 = \dot{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i) + \left[\frac{1}{2a^3\epsilon} (\Omega_{[2]}(q_1) + \Omega_{[2]}(q_2)) + \frac{4}{a^3} E_{[2]}(q_3) \right] \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i) + \mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_3)}, \quad (2.29)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_3)} = & 2\mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_3)} + 2\mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_3)} E_{[2]}(q_3) + \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) + \mathcal{C}_{213}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) + \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) E_{[2]}(q_3) \\ & + \mathcal{D}_{213}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) E_{[2]}(q_3) + 2\mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) + 2\mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) \Omega_{[2]}(q_2) E_{[2]}(q_3). \end{aligned} \quad (2.30)$$

Thus, given solutions ζ_q and $\hat{\gamma}_q$ of the linearised equations of motion we may solve (2.29) to find

$$\Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(z, q_i) = -\frac{1}{\zeta_{q_1}(z)\zeta_{q_2}(z)\hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)} \int_{z_0}^z dz' \mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_3)}(z') \zeta_{q_1}(z') \zeta_{q_2}(z') \hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z'). \quad (2.31)$$

We will return to the choice of lower limit z_0 in this integral in the next subsection.

The remaining response functions may be obtained by an analogous procedure. The response function $\Omega_{[3]}$ is derived in [1] (where it is called Λ), however we will not need it here. For the rest, one finds

$$\Omega_{[3]}^{(s_2 s_3)}(z, q_i) = -\frac{1}{\zeta_{q_1}(z)\hat{\gamma}_{q_2}(z)\hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)} \int_{z_0}^z dz' \mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)}(z') \zeta_{q_1}(z') \hat{\gamma}_{q_2}(z') \hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z'). \quad (2.32)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} = & \mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} E_{[2]}(q_3) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{B}_{132}^{(s_3 s_2)} E_{[2]}(q_2) + \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} E_{[2]}(q_2) E_{[2]}(q_3) + \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) E_{[2]}(q_3) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_{132}^{(s_3 s_2)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) E_{[2]}(q_2) + \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \Omega_{[2]}(q_1) E_{[2]}(q_2) E_{[2]}(q_3). \end{aligned} \quad (2.33)$$

Similarly,

$$E_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(z, q_i) = -\frac{1}{\hat{\gamma}_{q_1}(z)\hat{\gamma}_{q_2}(z)\hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)} \int_{z_0}^z dz' \frac{3}{2} \mathcal{A}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(z', q_i) \hat{\gamma}_{q_1}(z') \hat{\gamma}_{q_2}(z') \hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z'). \quad (2.34)$$

Finally, we find

$$E_{[3]}^{(s_1)}(q_1, q_2, q_3) = \frac{1}{4} \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_1)}(q_2, q_3, q_1), \quad E_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_3)}(q_1, q_2, q_3) = \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3 s_1)}(q_2, q_3, q_1). \quad (2.35)$$

As we will see in the next section, the imaginary parts of these response functions give the various cosmological 3-point functions we wish to compute.

2.5 Domain-wall/cosmology correspondence

Examining the background equations of motion (2.12), as well as the Hamiltonian for the perturbations (both the free part (2.16) and the interaction terms (B.3), (B.4) and (B.5)), we see that a perturbed cosmological solution (*i.e.*, with $\sigma = -1$) expressed in terms of κ^2 and

\vec{q}_i analytically continues to a perturbed domain-wall solution ($\sigma = +1$) expressed in terms of the analytically continued variables $\bar{\kappa}^2$ and $\vec{\bar{q}}_i$, where

$$\bar{\kappa}^2 = -\kappa^2, \quad \vec{\bar{q}}_i = -i\vec{q}_i. \quad (2.36)$$

The first continuation serves to reverse the sign of the potential in (2.12) (taking, for example, dS to AdS), while the second ensures that $q_i^2 = -\bar{q}_i^2$, which mimics the effect of changing the sign of σ in the Hamiltonian for the perturbations. The choice of branch cut in the continuation of the magnitude q_i is imposed on us by the necessity of mapping the cosmological Bunch-Davies vacuum behaviour to the domain-wall solution that decays smoothly in the interior, as required for the computation of holographic correlation functions.

Turning now to the response functions, we see that if we define the response functions appearing in (2.21) and (2.22) to be cosmological response functions with $\sigma = -1$, then the corresponding domain-wall response functions, which we will denote using a bar, are given by analytic continuation of the momenta. For example,

$$\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{\bar{q}}) = \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(-iq) = \Omega_{[2]}(q), \quad \bar{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(\vec{\bar{q}}_i) = \bar{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(-iq_i) = \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i), \quad \text{etc.} \quad (2.37)$$

In the remainder of this paper, we will use the unbarred variables κ^2 , q_i and unbarred response functions for performing cosmological calculations, and the barred variables $\bar{\kappa}^2$, $\vec{\bar{q}}_i$ and barred response functions for domain-wall calculations. To analytically continue the results from domain-walls to cosmologies, and vice versa, we use (2.36) and (2.37).

Finally, we note the analytic continuation (2.36), when translated into QFT variables, reads

$$\bar{N} = -iN, \quad \vec{\bar{q}}_i = -i\vec{q}_i, \quad (2.38)$$

where \bar{N} is the rank of the gauge group of the QFT dual to the domain-wall spacetime, and N is the rank of the gauge group of the pseudo-QFT dual to the corresponding cosmology. Our choice of branch cut in the continuation of \bar{N} ensures that the dimensionless effective QFT coupling $g_{\text{eff}}^2 = g_{\text{YM}}^2 \bar{N} / \bar{q} = g_{\text{YM}}^2 N / q$ is invariant under (2.38).

3 Cosmological 3-point functions

3.1 Calculation using response functions

We begin by quantising the interaction picture fields ζ and $\hat{\gamma}^{(s)}$ such that

$$\zeta(z, \vec{q}) = a(\vec{q})\zeta_q(z) + a^\dagger(-\vec{q})\zeta_q^*(z), \quad \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(z, \vec{q}) = b^{(s)}(\vec{q})\hat{\gamma}_q(z) + b^{(s)\dagger}(-\vec{q})\hat{\gamma}_q^*(z), \quad (3.1)$$

where the creation and annihilation operators obey the usual commutation relations

$$[a(\vec{q}), a^\dagger(\vec{q}')] = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{q} - \vec{q}'), \quad [b^{(s)}(\vec{q}), b^{(s)\dagger}(\vec{q}')] = (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{q} - \vec{q}') \delta^{ss'}, \quad (3.2)$$

and the mode functions $\zeta_q(z)$ and $\hat{\gamma}_q$ are solutions of the linearized equation of motion (2.24), with initial conditions specified by the Bunch-Davies vacuum condition.

The corresponding 2-point functions are

$$\langle\langle \zeta(z, q) \zeta(z, -q) \rangle\rangle = |\zeta_q(z)|^2, \quad \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(z, q) \hat{\gamma}^{(s')}(z, -q) \rangle\rangle = |\hat{\gamma}_q(z)|^2 \delta^{ss'}, \quad (3.3)$$

where the double bracket notation we use for correlators is defined in Appendix D and serves to suppress the appearance of delta functions associated with overall momentum conservation. As was shown in [12, 20], these 2-point functions may be re-expressed in terms of the linear response functions:

$$\langle\langle \zeta(z, q) \zeta(z, -q) \rangle\rangle = \frac{-\kappa^2}{2\text{Im}[\Omega_{[2]}(z, q)]}, \quad \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(z, q) \hat{\gamma}^{(s')}(z, -q) \rangle\rangle = \frac{-\kappa^2 \delta^{ss'}}{4\text{Im}[E_{[2]}(z, q)]}. \quad (3.4)$$

At tree level, the 3-point function is given in the in-in formalism by the standard formula [2, 25], *e.g.*,

$$\langle \zeta(z, \vec{q}_1) \zeta(z, \vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, \vec{q}_3) \rangle = -i \int_{z_0}^z dz' \langle [\zeta(z, \vec{q}_1) \zeta(z, \vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, \vec{q}_3) : , : H_{\zeta \zeta \hat{\gamma}}(z') :] \rangle. \quad (3.5)$$

Here, to ensure convergence, a suitable infinitesimal rotation of the contour of integration is understood. The lower limit z_0 represents some very early time (corresponding to large and negative conformal times) at which the interactions are assumed to be switched on. Note that both the operators appearing in the commutator in this formula are taken to be normal ordered as indicated.

Inserting the operator equivalent of (2.17) for $H_{\zeta \zeta \hat{\gamma}}$ in the above formula, we may now proceed to evaluate the commutator explicitly, noting that for the cubic terms in $H_{\zeta \zeta \hat{\gamma}}$ we may replace

$$\begin{aligned} \Pi(z, \vec{q}) &= a(\vec{q}) \Omega_{[2]}(z, q) \zeta_q(z) + a^\dagger(-\vec{q}) \Omega_{[2]}^*(z, q) \zeta_q^*(z), \\ \Pi^{(s)}(z, \vec{q}) &= b^{(s)}(\vec{q}) E_{[2]}(z, q) \hat{\gamma}_q(z) + b^{(s)\dagger}(-\vec{q}) E_{[2]}^*(z, q) \hat{\gamma}_q^*(z). \end{aligned} \quad (3.6)$$

In this manner, we find the full 3-point function

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\langle\langle \zeta(z, q_1) \zeta(z, q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, q_3) \rangle\rangle}{|\zeta_{q_1}(z)|^2 |\zeta_{q_2}(z)|^2 |\hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)|^2} &= \text{Im} \left[\frac{1}{\zeta_{q_1}(z) \zeta_{q_2}(z) \hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)} \int_{z_0}^z dz' (-2\kappa^2) \mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_3)}(z') \zeta_{q_1}(z') \zeta_{q_2}(z') \hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z') \right] \\ &= \text{Im} \left[2\kappa^{-2} \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(z, q_1, q_2, q_3) \right], \end{aligned} \quad (3.7)$$

where $\mathcal{X}_{123}^{(s_3)}$ is defined in (2.30) and in the last line we have used (2.31). The lower limit of integration z_0 in (2.31) should thus be identified with the lower limit z_0 in (3.5). Again, our double bracket notation for correlators is given in Appendix D.

Applying the same procedure for the remaining two cosmological correlators, we find

$$\frac{\langle\langle \zeta(z, q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(z, q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, q_3) \rangle\rangle}{|\zeta_{q_1}(z)|^2 |\hat{\gamma}_{q_2}(z)|^2 |\hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)|^2} = \text{Im} \left[4\kappa^{-2} \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_2 s_3)}(z, q_1, q_2, q_3) \right], \quad (3.8)$$

$$\frac{\langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(z, q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(z, q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, q_3) \rangle\rangle}{|\hat{\gamma}_{q_1}(z)|^2 |\hat{\gamma}_{q_2}(z)|^2 |\hat{\gamma}_{q_3}(z)|^2} = \text{Im} \left[8\kappa^{-2} E_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(z, q_1, q_2, q_3) \right]. \quad (3.9)$$

Equations (3.7), (3.8) and (3.9) are the main results of this section. Used in combination with (3.4), they allow us to re-express the cosmological 3-point functions in terms of the corresponding response functions.

3.2 Helicity structure of cosmological 3-point correlators

In this section, we discuss the most general possible helicity structure for cosmological 3-point correlators involving tensors. Since we are principally interested in their late-time behaviour, we will suppress all z -dependence.

First of all, symmetry under permutations imposes that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \zeta(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= \hat{A}_{(12)3} + s_3 \hat{B}_{(12)3}, \\ \langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= \tilde{A}_{1(23)} + s_2 \tilde{B}_{1(23)} + s_3 \tilde{B}_{1(23)} + s_2 s_3 \tilde{C}_{1(23)}, \\ \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= A_{(123)} + s_1 B_{1(23)} + s_2 B_{2(31)} + s_3 B_{3(12)} \\ &\quad + s_1 s_2 C_{(12)3} + s_2 s_3 C_{(23)1} + s_3 s_1 C_{(31)2} + s_1 s_2 s_3 D_{(123)}, \end{aligned} \quad (3.10)$$

where the coefficients are appropriately symmetrised functions of the momenta, *i.e.*, $B_{(12)3} \equiv B(q_1, q_2, q_3) = B(q_2, q_1, q_3)$, *etc.* If the interactions are invariant under parity ($\vec{q}_i \rightarrow -\vec{q}_i$), then the correlation functions are in addition invariant under reversing the sign of all helicities, *i.e.*, $s_i \rightarrow -s_i$. In this case, the helicity structure simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \zeta(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= \hat{A}_{(12)3} \\ \langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= \tilde{A}_{1(23)} + s_2 s_3 \tilde{C}_{1(23)}, \\ \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= A_{(123)} + (s_1 s_2 C_{(12)3} + \text{cyclic perms}). \end{aligned} \quad (3.11)$$

These relations encode the observation that, for example, all correlators involving three tensors may be obtained from either $\langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle$ or $\langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(-)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle$ through permutations and parity.

It is interesting to note that the helicity structure of 3-point correlators arising from the standard inflationary Lagrangian (2.11) takes the form

$$\langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \zeta(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = F_{\zeta \zeta \hat{\gamma}}(q_i) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), \quad (3.12)$$

$$\langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = F_{\zeta \hat{\gamma} \hat{\gamma}}(q_i) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i), \quad (3.13)$$

$$\langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = F_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i) \theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i), \quad (3.14)$$

where $F_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}}(q_i)$, $F_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i)$ and $F_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i)$ are general functions of the magnitudes q_i , while $\theta^{(s_3)}(q_i)$, $\theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ and $\theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ denote specific contractions of helicity tensors given in Appendix C. This structure follows simply from the observation that all terms in the cubic interaction Hamiltonians $\mathcal{H}_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}}$, $\mathcal{H}_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}$ and $\mathcal{H}_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}$ are proportional to $\theta^{(s_3)}(q_i)$, $\theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ and $\theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ respectively, as may be seen from (B.3), (B.4) and (B.5). Using the results of Appendix C, we then find

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{A}_{(12)3} &= \frac{\lambda^2}{4\sqrt{2}q_3^2} F_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}}(q_i), \\ \tilde{A}_{1(23)} &= \left(1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{8q_2^2 q_3^2}\right) F_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i), & \tilde{C}_{1(23)} &= \frac{1}{2q_2 q_3} (-q_1^2 + q_2^2 + q_3^2) F_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i), \\ A_{(123)} &= \frac{\lambda^2}{4\sqrt{2}} \left(\frac{1}{q_1^2} + \frac{1}{q_2^2} + \frac{1}{q_3^2} - \frac{\lambda^2}{8q_1^2 q_2^2 q_3^2}\right) F_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i), & C_{(12)3} &= \frac{\lambda^2(q_1^2 + q_2^2 + 3q_3^2)}{8\sqrt{2}q_1 q_2 q_3^2} F_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}(q_i), \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

where λ is a function of the momenta given in (C.5). Equivalently, we have the following relationships between correlators:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= \left(\frac{(q_2 + q_3)^2 - q_1^2}{(q_2 - q_3)^2 - q_1^2}\right)^2 \langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(-)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle, \\ \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle &= \left(\frac{q_1 + q_2 + q_3}{q_1 + q_2 - q_3}\right)^4 \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(+)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(-)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (3.16)$$

Note that these are universal relations that hold for any Lagrangian of the form (2.11). In particular, they hold irrespectively of the form of the inflationary potential. Using these relations one can reconstruct all 3-point correlators from those involving only positive helicity gravitons.

If one considers a more general Lagrangian in place of (2.11), for example by including higher derivative interactions, then one must instead revert to the general form (3.11) (or (3.10) if the interactions violate parity). Note also that if the background possesses any isometries (*e.g.*, the case where the background is exactly de Sitter spacetime), these may be used to constrain the form of the generalised shape functions appearing in these expressions. This idea has been explored recently in [26, 24].

3.3 An example: slow-roll inflation

To illustrate the discussion above, in this subsection we compute the cosmological 3-point functions in the slow-roll approximation using response functions. We will assume all momenta to be of comparable magnitude.

(i) *Two scalars and a graviton*

As shown by Maldacena [2], the cubic action for two scalars and a graviton may be written to leading order in slow-roll as

$$\kappa^2 \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}} = a\epsilon\hat{\gamma}_{ij}\zeta_{,i}\zeta_{,j} + \dots, \quad (3.17)$$

after performing suitable field redefinitions (and setting $\sigma = -1$). These field redefinitions may be neglected on super-horizon scales, however, and so can effectively be ignored in the following. The interaction Hamiltonian then comprises only the single term

$$\mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_3)} = -a\epsilon\theta^{(s_3)}(q_i). \quad (3.18)$$

To evaluate the response function $\Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(q_i)$ at late times, one then uses (2.31), substituting in the de Sitter solutions

$$\zeta_q(\tau) \approx \frac{i\kappa H_*}{\sqrt{4\epsilon_* q^3}}(1 + iq\tau)e^{-iq\tau}, \quad \hat{\gamma}_q(\tau) \approx \frac{i\kappa H_*}{\sqrt{q^3}}(1 + iq\tau)e^{-iq\tau}. \quad (3.19)$$

for the linearised mode functions. Here, the asterisk indicates taking the values at the time of horizon crossing $z = z_*$ (where $q \approx a(z_*)H(z_*)$), while the conformal time $\tau = \int dz/a$. We find

$$\Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(\tau, q_i) = \frac{2\epsilon_*}{H_*^2}\theta^{(s_3)}(q_i) \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} \frac{d\tau'}{\tau'^2} (1 + iq_1\tau')(1 + iq_2\tau')(1 + iq_3\tau')e^{-iq_t\tau'} \quad (3.20)$$

where $q_t = \sum_i q_i$. (Note that $a \approx -1/H_*\tau$ and time derivatives of ϵ_* and H_* are higher order in slow roll). While the full response function diverges as $\tau \rightarrow 0^-$, the imaginary part is finite:

$$\text{Im}[\Omega_{[3]0}^{(s_3)}(q_i)] = \frac{2\epsilon_*}{H_*^2} \left(q_t - \frac{\sum_{i<j} q_i q_j}{q_t} - \frac{q_1 q_2 q_3}{q_t^2} \right) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), \quad (3.21)$$

where the subscript zero indicates taking the value in the late-time limit.

From (3.7), we then obtain

$$\langle\langle \zeta(q_1)\zeta(q_2)\hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = \frac{\kappa^4 H_*^4}{4\epsilon_* \prod_i q_i^3} \left(q_t - \frac{\sum_{i<j} q_i q_j}{q_t} - \frac{q_1 q_2 q_3}{q_t^2} \right) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), \quad (3.22)$$

in agreement with [2].

(ii) *One scalar and two gravitons*

To leading order in slow-roll, the cubic action for one scalar and two gravitons may be written as [2]

$$\kappa^2 \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} = \frac{1}{2}a^5\epsilon H\dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij}\dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij}\partial^{-2}\dot{\zeta}_c + \dots, \quad (3.23)$$

where the field

$$\zeta_c = \zeta + \frac{1}{32}\hat{\gamma}_{ij}\hat{\gamma}_{ij} - \frac{1}{16}\partial^{-2}(\hat{\gamma}_{ij}\partial^2\hat{\gamma}_{ij}) + \dots \quad (3.24)$$

Here, we have omitted further terms that may be neglected on superhorizon scales. The cubic Hamiltonian for this sector is then once again only a single term:

$$\mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} = \frac{4H}{a^4 q_1^2} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i). \quad (3.25)$$

We may evaluate the response function $\Omega_{[3]}^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ using (2.32), noting that the response functions $\Omega_{[2]}(q)$ and $E_{[2]}(q)$ for the linearised fluctuations are

$$\Omega_{[2]}(\tau, q) = \frac{2a^2 \epsilon_*}{\zeta_q} \frac{d\zeta_q}{d\tau} \approx \frac{-2a\epsilon_* q^2}{H_*(1+iq\tau)}, \quad E_{[2]}(\tau, q) = \frac{a^2}{4\hat{\gamma}_q} \frac{d\hat{\gamma}_q}{d\tau} \approx \frac{-aq^2}{4H_*(1+iq\tau)}. \quad (3.26)$$

Consequently, taking the late-time limit, one finds using (3.8) that

$$\langle\langle \zeta_c(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = \frac{\kappa^4 H_*^4}{2 \prod_i q_i^3} \frac{q_2^2 q_3^2}{q_t} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i). \quad (3.27)$$

Reverting to the original ζ variable, we then find¹

$$\langle\langle \zeta(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = \frac{\kappa^4 H_*^4}{2 \prod_i q_i^3} \left(\frac{q_2^2 q_3^2}{q_t} - \frac{1}{8} q_1 (q_1^2 - q_2^2 - q_3^2) \right) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i). \quad (3.28)$$

(iii) Three gravitons

The cubic interaction Hamiltonian for three gravitons is simply that given in (B.5), with $\sigma = -1$. As above, we may solve for the response function $E_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ using (2.34). From (3.9), we then find that at late times

$$\langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(q_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle = \frac{\kappa^4 H_*^4}{2 \prod_i q_i^3} \left(q_t - \frac{\sum_{i<j} q_i q_j}{q_t} - \frac{q_1 q_2 q_3}{q_t^2} \right) \theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i), \quad (3.29)$$

in agreement with [2].

4 Holographic 3-point functions

In this section we present our holographic calculation for the full 3-point function of the stress-energy tensor. We begin with a careful identification of the 3-point correlators appearing when the 1-point function in the presence of sources is expanded to quadratic order. We then proceed with the holographic analysis itself, first for the case of asymptotically AdS domain-walls, and secondly for the case of asymptotically power-law domain-walls.

¹We believe the coefficient of k_1^3 in equation (4.13) of [2] should be $-1/2$ rather than $-1/4$.

4.1 Correlation functions of the stress-energy tensor

Correlation functions of the stress-energy tensor may be obtained by coupling the theory to a background metric $g_{(0)kl}$ and functionally differentiating with respect to the metric. Equivalently, starting with the 1-point function in the presence of sources, $\langle T_{ij} \rangle_s = (2/\sqrt{g_{(0)}})\delta S/\delta g_{(0)}^{ij}$, higher correlation functions may be obtained through repeated functional differentiation with respect to the source $g_{(0)kl}$, after which the source is set to its background value. In performing this operation, one must be careful to note that the stress-energy tensor T_{ij} has itself a purely classical dependence on the metric: this additional metric dependence gives rise to contact terms, some of which we need to keep track of. Specifically, when computing the 3-point function, we need to retain *semi-local* contact terms in which only two of the three points involved are coincident, since terms of this form contribute to local-type non-Gaussianity. We may, on the other hand, discard *ultralocal* contact terms in which all three points are coincident: such terms are generically scheme dependent (*i.e.*, one may remove them by addition of finite local counterterms).

Expanding the 1-point function in the presence of sources to quadratic order about a flat background, we have

$$\delta\langle T_j^i(\vec{x}_1) \rangle_s = (\delta^{ip} + \delta g^{ip}(\vec{x}_1))\delta\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) \rangle_s \quad (4.1)$$

(as the vacuum expectation value $\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) \rangle$ vanishes), where

$$\delta\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) \rangle_s = \int d^3\vec{x}_2 \frac{\delta\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) \rangle}{\delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2)} \Big|_0 \delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2) + \frac{1}{2} \int d^3\vec{x}_2 d^3\vec{x}_3 \frac{\delta^2\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) \rangle}{\delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2)\delta g^{mn}(\vec{x}_3)} \Big|_0 \delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2)\delta g^{mn}(\vec{x}_3), \quad (4.2)$$

the zero subscripts indicating setting the sources to their background value (*i.e.*, setting $g_{ij} = \delta_{ij}$). Evaluating this carefully, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T_j^i(\vec{x}_1) \rangle_s &= -\frac{1}{2} \int d^3\vec{x}_2 \langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{x}_2) \rangle \delta^{ip} \delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{8} \int d^3\vec{x}_2 d^3\vec{x}_3 \left[\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{x}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{x}_3) \rangle \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 4\delta(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_3) \langle T_{mj}(\vec{x}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{x}_2) \rangle \delta_{pm} + \delta(\vec{x}_2 - \vec{x}_3) \langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{x}_2) \rangle \delta_{mn} \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 2\langle T_{pj}(\vec{x}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{x}_2, \vec{x}_3) \rangle - 4\langle \Upsilon_{pjmn}(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_3) T_{kl}(\vec{x}_2) \rangle \right] \delta^{ip} \delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2) \delta g^{mn}(\vec{x}_3), \end{aligned} \quad (4.3)$$

where symmetrisation of the quadratic terms under exchange of \vec{x}_2 and \vec{x}_3 is understood and we have dropped ultralocal contact terms but retained semi-local ones. In addition, we have defined the operator

$$\Upsilon_{ijkl}(\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2) = \frac{\delta T_{ij}(\vec{x}_1)}{\delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2)} \Big|_0 = 2 \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta g^{ij}(\vec{x}_1) \delta g^{kl}(\vec{x}_2)} \Big|_0 + \frac{1}{2} T_{ij}(\vec{x}_1) \delta_{kl} \delta(\vec{x}_1 - \vec{x}_2). \quad (4.4)$$

Note that ψ couples to the trace of the stress-energy tensor while γ_{ij} couples to the transverse traceless part. Hence, in our holographic calculations to follow, we will only need to turn on these terms in (4.3):

$$\delta g_{ij}(\vec{x}) = -2\psi\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \delta g^{ij}(\vec{x}) = 2\psi\delta_{ij} - \gamma_{ij} + 4\psi^2\delta_{ij} - 4\psi\gamma_{ij} + \gamma_{ik}\gamma_{kj}. \quad (4.5)$$

Transforming to momentum space and collecting together the coefficients of the various quadratic terms that appear, we find the variation of the trace of the 1-point function is

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T^i(\vec{q}_1)\rangle_s &= -\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(-\vec{q}_1)\rangle\rangle\psi(\vec{q}_1) + \int[[d\vec{q}_2d\vec{q}_3]][\dots]\psi(-\vec{q}_2)\psi(-\vec{q}_3) \\ &+ \int[[d\vec{q}_2d\vec{q}_3]]\left[-\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(\vec{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle + \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(-\vec{q}_1)\rangle\rangle\right. \\ &+ \frac{1}{2}\Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_2)T(-\vec{q}_2)\rangle\rangle + 2\langle\langle \Upsilon(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle \\ &+ 2\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle + 2\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle\left.\right]\psi(-\vec{q}_2)\gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \\ &+ \int[[d\vec{q}_2d\vec{q}_3]]\left[\frac{1}{2}\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{4}(A(\vec{q}_2) + A(\vec{q}_3))\theta^{(s_2s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\right. \\ &- \frac{1}{4}\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(-\vec{q}_1)\rangle\rangle\Theta^{(s_2s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) - \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle \\ &- \langle\langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)\Upsilon^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2)\rangle\rangle - \langle\langle T^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle\left.\right]\gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2)\gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3), \end{aligned} \quad (4.6)$$

where we have omitted the coefficient of the $\psi\psi$ term as we will not need it in the following. (See instead [1]). A precise definition of the various quantities appearing in this expression is given in Appendix D. Had we considered only correlators at separated points, the r.h.s. of (4.6) would only contain the terms with $\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(-\vec{q}_1)\rangle\rangle$, $\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(\vec{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle$ and $\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle$ (so indeed ψ and $\gamma^{(s)}$ insert T and $T^{(s)}$ respectively). As mentioned earlier, however, semi-local terms are important and so retain these terms as well.

We will also need the corresponding result for the variation of the transverse traceless part of the 1-point function, which reads

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1)\rangle_s &\equiv \frac{1}{2}\epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1)\delta\langle T_j^i(\vec{q}_1)\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{2}A(\vec{q}_1)\gamma^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) + \int[[d\vec{q}_2d\vec{q}_3]]\left[\frac{1}{2}\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1)T(\vec{q}_2)T(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \frac{5}{8}\Theta_2^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_i)\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_2)T(-\vec{q}_2)\rangle\rangle\right. \\ &- \frac{5}{8}\Theta_3^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_i)\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_3)T(-\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1)\Upsilon(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_1)\rangle\rangle \\ &- \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_3)\Upsilon^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_1)\rangle\rangle\left.\right]\psi(-\vec{q}_2)\psi(-\vec{q}_3) \\ &+ \int[[d\vec{q}_2d\vec{q}_3]]\left[-\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2)T(\vec{q}_3)\rangle\rangle + (A(\vec{q}_1) + \frac{5}{4}A(\vec{q}_2))\theta^{(s_1s_2)}(\vec{q}_i)\right. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + 2\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_2)\rangle\rangle + 2\langle\langle T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_1)\rangle\rangle \\
& + 2\langle\langle \Upsilon^{(s_1 s_2)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2)T(\bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle \Big] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2)\psi(-\vec{q}_3) \\
& + \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \left[\frac{1}{2} \langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{8} (2A(\bar{q}_1) + A(\bar{q}_2) + A(\bar{q}_3)) \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - \left(\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle + \text{cyclic perms.} \right) \right] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3). \quad (4.7)
\end{aligned}$$

In the next section, we will use these formulae to read off components of the stress-energy tensor 3-point function from the asymptotic behaviour of the bulk domain-wall perturbations.

4.2 Holographic analysis

We now discuss the calculation of holographic 3-point functions for domain-wall spacetimes that are asymptotically AdS, deferring the discussion of asymptotically power-law domain-walls to Section 4.3.

Working in synchronous (Fefferman-Graham) gauge where $N_i = 0$ and $N = 1$, for asymptotically AdS domain-walls we have [17]

$$\langle T_j^i \rangle_s = \left[\frac{-2}{\sqrt{g}} \Pi_j^i \right]_{(3)} = \bar{\kappa}^{-2} [K \delta_j^i - K_j^i]_{(3)}. \quad (4.8)$$

The subscript here indicates that one should select the piece with the indicated weight under scale transformations. More precisely, asymptotically AdS spacetimes possess a dilatation operator (realised asymptotically as the radial derivative in Fefferman-Graham coordinates) and one may decompose all covariant quantities into a sum of terms each having a definite scaling dimension. In particular, one can do this for the radial canonical momentum, and (4.8) then instructs us to pick the piece with dilatation weight 3. The terms with lower weight diverge and keeping only the terms with weight 3 is equivalent to holographic renormalization [27].

Our task now is to compute (4.8) to quadratic order in the sources. Upon varying, we obtain

$$\delta \langle T_i^i(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s = 2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} [\delta K(\vec{q}_1)]_{(3)} = \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \left[\dot{h}(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] h_{ij}(-\vec{q}_2) \dot{h}_{ij}(-\vec{q}_3) \right]_{(3)}, \quad (4.9)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta \langle T^{(s)}(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s &= -\frac{1}{2} \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(-\vec{q}_1) [\delta K_j^i(\vec{q}_1)]_{(3)} \\
&= \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \dot{\gamma}^{(s)}(\vec{q}_1) + \frac{1}{4} \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(-\vec{q}_1) h_{ik}(-\vec{q}_2) \dot{h}_{kj}(-\vec{q}_3) \right]_{(3)}, \quad (4.10)
\end{aligned}$$

where $h = h_{ii}$. We now wish to expand $\delta \langle T_i^i \rangle_s$ and $\delta \langle T^{(s)} \rangle_s$ to quadratic order in ψ and $\gamma^{(s')}$. This means that we must express \dot{h}_{ij} in terms of ψ and $\gamma^{(s')}$, which we will accomplish using Hamilton's equations and the definition of the response functions. The main complication

in performing this step is that the system is constrained, and one has to use the constraints in expressing \dot{h}_{ij} in terms of ψ and $\gamma^{(s')}$. In contrast, for a scalar field Ψ in a fixed FRW background, the steps that we are about to describe are trivial: to linear order $\pi \sim a^3 \dot{\Psi} \sim \Omega_\Psi \Psi$, where Ω_Ψ is the response function, and therefore one immediately finds $\dot{\Psi}$ in terms of Ψ .

Let us start by reviewing the computation at linear order. To this end, we note first that, at linear order, the Hamiltonian and momentum constraints (given in Appendix E) read

$$\dot{\psi} = (\dots)\delta\varphi, \quad \dot{h} = -\frac{2\bar{q}^2}{a^2 H}\psi + \frac{\dot{\varphi}}{H}\delta\dot{\varphi} + (\dots)\delta\varphi, \quad \dot{\omega}_i = 0. \quad (4.11)$$

We therefore obtain

$$\dot{h}_{ij} = \frac{\bar{q}_i \bar{q}_j}{\bar{q}^2} \dot{h} + \frac{4}{a^3} E_{[2]}(\bar{q}) \gamma_{ij} + (\dots)\delta\varphi. \quad (4.12)$$

Now, on the one hand, we have

$$\dot{\zeta} = \frac{1}{2a^3 \epsilon} \Pi = \frac{1}{2a^3 \epsilon} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}) \zeta = -\frac{1}{2a^3 \epsilon} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}) \psi + (\dots)\delta\varphi, \quad (4.13)$$

and on the other hand,

$$\dot{\zeta} = (-\psi - \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}} \delta\varphi) \dot{\varphi} = -\frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}} \delta\dot{\varphi} + (\dots)\delta\varphi. \quad (4.14)$$

Thus, at linear order,

$$\delta\dot{\varphi} = \frac{H}{a^3 \dot{\varphi}} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}) \psi + (\dots)\delta\varphi, \quad \dot{h}_{ij} = \frac{\bar{q}_i \bar{q}_j}{\bar{q}^2} \left(\frac{\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q})}{a^3} - \frac{2\bar{q}^2}{a^2 H} \right) \psi + \frac{4}{a^3} E_{[2]}(\bar{q}) \gamma_{ij} + (\dots)\delta\varphi. \quad (4.15)$$

This is all that we need in order to derive the 2-point function (as we will do below). Moreover, in the calculations to follow, we will use these results to replace all $\delta\dot{\varphi}$ and \dot{h}_{ij} terms appearing in quadratic combinations.

Let us now prepare to do the computations at quadratic order required for the evaluation of 3-point functions. The calculation for the 3-point function for the trace of the stress-energy tensor was performed in [1]. Our principal goal here is then to evaluate the remaining correlators $\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle$, $\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle$ and $\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle$. A useful feature of the first two of these correlators is that they may both be computed in two different ways: for example, to compute $\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle$, one may either expand $\delta\langle T_i^i(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s$ to quadratic order in $\psi(-\vec{q}_2)\gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3)$, or one may expand $\delta\langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s$ to quadratic order in $\psi(-\vec{q}_1)\psi(-\vec{q}_2)$ (since ψ and $\gamma^{(s)}$ couple to T and $T^{(s)}$ respectively). Clearly both these approaches should yield the same outcome, providing a useful cross-check on our calculations.

In the following, we will focus on the calculation of the correlator $\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle$ via the first of these methods. As the analysis for the second method as well as that for the remaining 3-point correlators is of a broadly similar nature we will simply summarise the

appropriate results at the end of the present section. For full details, we refer the reader to Appendix F.

Let us start by examining the full Hamiltonian constraint at quadratic order. From (E.2), in position space we have

$$(\dot{h} - h_{ij}\dot{h}_{ij}) = \frac{1}{2H}(R_{(1)} + R_{(2)}) + \frac{\dot{\varphi}}{H}\delta\dot{\varphi} - \frac{1}{8H}\dot{h}^2 + \frac{1}{8H}\dot{h}_{ij}\dot{h}_{ij} + \frac{1}{2H}\delta\dot{\varphi}^2 + (\dots)\delta\varphi + (\dots)\delta\varphi^2. \quad (4.16)$$

The spatial curvature terms $R_{(1)}$ and $R_{(2)}$ are simply local functions of ψ , however, (for example, $R_{(1)} = 4a^{-2}\partial^2\psi$) and so holographically these terms contribute only ultralocal contact terms to $\delta\langle T_i^i(x) \rangle_s$. We may therefore discard these terms immediately. The remaining quadratic terms may then be replaced using (4.15). Up to ultralocal contact terms, in momentum space this gives

$$(\dot{h} - h_{ij}\dot{h}_{ij})(\vec{q}_1) = \frac{\dot{\varphi}}{H}\delta\dot{\varphi}(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \left(\frac{\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2)}{a^6 H} - \frac{2\vec{q}_2^2}{a^5 H^2} \right) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \quad (4.17)$$

where we have made use of (C.2) and retained only quadratic terms of the form $\psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3)$.

We may now eliminate the $\delta\dot{\varphi}$ as follows. Firstly, from the gauge-invariant definition (2.7) of ζ , in synchronous gauge we have

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta &= -\psi + \frac{1}{2}\pi_{ij}(\psi\gamma_{ij}) + \dots, \\ \dot{\zeta} &= -\dot{\psi} - \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}}\delta\dot{\varphi} - 2\psi\dot{\psi} + \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}^2}\delta\dot{\varphi}\delta\dot{\varphi} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4}\pi_{ij} \left[-\frac{\delta\dot{\varphi}}{\dot{\varphi}}\dot{h}_{ij} - 2(\dot{\chi}_{,ki} + \dot{\omega}_{k,i})(-2\psi\delta_{jk} + \gamma_{jk}) - (\dot{\chi}_{,k} + \dot{\omega}_k)(-2\psi_{,k}\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij,k}) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + 2\dot{\psi}\gamma_{ij} + 2\psi\dot{\gamma}_{ij} - \gamma_{ik}\dot{\gamma}_{kj} \right] + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (4.18)$$

where we have omitted terms that vanish when the sources are restricted to $h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}$, $\delta\varphi = 0$. Upon replacing time-derivatives of perturbations in the quadratic terms using (4.15), we then find

$$\zeta(\vec{q}_1) = -\psi(\vec{q}_1) + \frac{1}{2} \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots, \quad (4.19)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}_1) &= -\dot{\psi}(\vec{q}_1) - \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}}\delta\dot{\varphi}(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \left[\frac{1}{2a^6 \epsilon H} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) - \frac{2}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{(\vec{q}_2^2 - \vec{q}_1^2 - 3\vec{q}_3^2)}{16\vec{q}_2^2} \left(\frac{\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2)}{a^3} - \frac{2\vec{q}_2^2}{a^2 H} \right) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.20)$$

On the other hand, from (2.26) combined with (4.19), we have

$$\dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}_1) = -\frac{1}{2a^3 \epsilon} \Omega_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) \psi(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \left[\frac{1}{2a^3 \epsilon} \Omega_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) - \frac{1}{4a^3 \epsilon} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \mathcal{C}_{213}^{(s_3)} \right]$$

$$+ \mathcal{D}_{213}^{(s_3)} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3) + 2\mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) + 2\mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3) \Big] \psi(-\vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots, \quad (4.21)$$

Finally, to eliminate $\dot{\psi}$, we use the momentum constraint equation. At quadratic order, this reads

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\psi} = & -\frac{1}{4}(-2\psi\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij})\dot{h}_{ij} \\ & + \partial^{-2}\partial_i \left[\frac{1}{4}\partial_j((-2\psi\delta_{jk} + \gamma_{jk})\dot{h}_{ki}) + \frac{1}{8}\dot{h}_{jk}(-2\psi_{,i}\delta_{jk} + \gamma_{jk,i}) - \frac{1}{8}\dot{h}_{ij}(-6\psi_{,j}) \right] + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (4.22)$$

where again we omit terms that vanish when the sources are set to $h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$. Using (4.15) for the quadratic terms, we then find

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\psi}(\vec{q}_1) = & - \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \left[\frac{1}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3) + \frac{(\bar{q}_2^2 - \bar{q}_1^2 - \bar{q}_3^2)}{16\bar{q}_2^2} \left(\frac{\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2)}{a^3} - \frac{2\bar{q}_2^2}{a^2 H} \right) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \\ & + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.23)$$

Putting together (4.17), (4.20), (4.21) and (4.23), we find (after a number of cancellations)

$$\begin{aligned} (\dot{h} - h_{ij}\dot{h}_{ij})(\vec{q}_1) = & \frac{1}{a^3} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \psi(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \left[\frac{1}{a^3} \bar{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \frac{1}{2a^3} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{2}{a^2 H} \theta^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.24)$$

This last term, however, is an ultralocal contact term (note that it is finite upon taking any given \bar{q}_i to zero) and so may be dropped with impunity. Therefore we find

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T_i^i(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s = & \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_1) \psi_{(0)}(\vec{q}_1) \\ & + \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \left[\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[3](0)}^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \frac{1}{2} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_1) \right] \psi_{(0)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma_{(0)}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (4.25)$$

Comparing with (4.6), we then see that

$$\begin{aligned} -\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}) &= \langle\langle T(\bar{q}) T(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle \quad (4.26) \\ -\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[3](0)}^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) &= \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) T(\bar{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{2} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) T(-\bar{q}_1) \rangle\rangle \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_2) T(-\bar{q}_2) \rangle\rangle - 2 \langle\langle \Upsilon(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\ &\quad - 2 \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - 2 \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_2) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (4.27)$$

The analysis for the remaining response functions (as well as the cross-check calculation for this last result) may be found in Appendix F. Here, we merely present the final results of these calculations, which are

$$\begin{aligned}
-\bar{\kappa}^{-2}\bar{\Omega}_{[3](0)}^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) &= \frac{1}{2}\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{4}(A(\bar{q}_2) + A(\bar{q}_3))\theta^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{8}\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T(-\bar{q}_1)\rangle\rangle\Theta^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle \\
&\quad - \langle\langle T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \langle\langle T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3)\Upsilon^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2)\rangle\rangle, \tag{4.28}
\end{aligned}$$

as well as

$$-4\bar{\kappa}^{-2}\bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}) = A(\bar{q}), \tag{4.29}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
-2\bar{\kappa}^{-2}\bar{E}_{[3](0)}^{(s_1s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) &= \frac{1}{2}\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{8}\Theta^{(s_1s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)\sum_i A(\bar{q}_i) \\
&\quad - \left(\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, b\bar{q}_3)\rangle\rangle + 2 \text{ cyclic perms.}\right). \tag{4.30}
\end{aligned}$$

In these expressions $A(\bar{q})$ refers to the transverse traceless piece of the stress-energy tensor 2-point function as defined in (D.9).

In summary, the main results of this section are (4.26), (4.27), (4.28), (4.29). These results allow us to read off the dual 3-point correlation functions from the asymptotic behaviour of the bulk response functions.

4.3 Asymptotically power-law domain-walls

As noted in the Introduction, there are two classes of domain-wall spacetime that currently have a well-understood holographic description: the first class consists of domain-walls that are asymptotically AdS, for which the holographic analysis is discussed above, while the second class consists of domain-walls that asymptote to non-conformal brane backgrounds. This latter class of domain-wall solutions correspond to cosmologies that have asymptotic power-law scaling at late times. For a detailed description of the relevant background geometry and holographic analysis we refer the reader to [10, 20, 1]. The holographic analysis in particular is very closely related to that for the asymptotically AdS case. In fact, in Section 4.2.2 of [1], we showed that the holographic formula giving the 3-point function for the trace of the stress-energy tensor for asymptotically AdS domain-walls also holds in the case of asymptotically power-law domain-walls. Here, it suffices to note that exactly the same arguments apply in the present case, and our results above expressing the stress-energy tensor 3-point function in terms of the bulk response functions are equally valid for both asymptotically AdS and asymptotically power-law domain-walls. A brief summary of the arguments of Section 4.2.2 of [1] is given below, where we note a few additional points of relevance.

In the asymptotically power-law case, the 1-point function in the presence of sources is given by the canonical momentum in the dual frame [10],

$$\langle T_j^i(x) \rangle_s = \left[\frac{-2}{\sqrt{g}} \tilde{\Pi}_j^i \right]_{(3)} = \left[\bar{\kappa}^{-2} e^{\lambda\Phi} ((\tilde{K} + \lambda\Phi_{,r})\delta_j^i - \tilde{K}_j^i) \right]_{(3)}, \tag{4.31}$$

where all quantities are defined in Section 4 of [1]. Expanding this 1-point function in the dual frame fluctuations $\tilde{\psi}$ and $\tilde{\gamma}$ is equivalent to expanding in powers of the Einstein frame fluctuations ψ and γ , since the respective coefficients of $\tilde{\psi}$, $\tilde{\gamma}$, $\tilde{\psi}\tilde{\psi}$, $\tilde{\gamma}\tilde{\gamma}$ and $\tilde{\psi}\tilde{\gamma}$ in the dual frame are equal to the coefficients of ψ , γ , $\psi\psi$, $\gamma\gamma$ and $\psi\gamma$ in the Einstein frame (see (4.33) of [1]). Expanding (4.31) and converting the dual frame perturbations into their Einstein frame equivalents, therefore, we find

$$\delta\langle T_i^i(\vec{q}_1)\rangle_s = \left[\bar{\kappa}^{-2} e^{3\lambda\varphi/2} \left(\dot{h}(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] h_{ij}(-\vec{q}_2) \dot{h}_{ij}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \right) \right]_{(3)}, \quad (4.32)$$

$$\delta\langle T^{(s)}(\vec{q}_1)\rangle_s = \left[\bar{\kappa}^{-2} e^{3\lambda\varphi/2} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \dot{\gamma}^{(s)}(\vec{q}_1) + \frac{1}{4} \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(-\vec{q}_1) h_{ik}(-\vec{q}_2) \dot{h}_{kj}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \right) \right]_{(3)}, \quad (4.33)$$

where we need retain only terms contributing to the expansion in ψ and γ . In particular, these expressions differ from their asymptotically AdS counterparts (4.9) and (4.10) only by an overall factor of $e^{3\lambda\varphi/2}$. We may therefore make use of our previous results for the asymptotically AdS case, noting that the effect of this overall factor is simply to convert the factors of a^{-3} appearing in our previous expressions to factors of \tilde{a}^{-3} , where \tilde{a} is the dual frame scale factor. (In this analysis, it is also important that the gauge-invariant fluctuations ζ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$ defined in (2.7) and (2.8) are independent of the lapse perturbation δN , as discussed in [1]). Consequently, at the end of our manipulations, when we extract the piece with dilatation weight three in the dual frame, we obtain exactly the same result as in the asymptotically AdS case earlier, when we extracted the piece with dilatation weight three in the Einstein frame. This is because a^{-3} has dilatation weight three in the Einstein frame, while \tilde{a}^{-3} has dilatation weight three in the dual frame.

5 Cosmological 3-point correlators from holography

In Section 3, we saw that the cosmological 2- and 3-point functions are related to the cosmological response functions, while in the previous section, we saw that the domain-wall response functions are related to 2- and 3-point functions of the dual QFT. We will now combine these results to obtain the main result of this paper: a complete set of holographic formulae for all cosmological 2- and 3-point functions in terms of 2- and 3-point functions of the dual QFT.

First, combining the cosmological 2-point functions (3.4) evaluated at late times with our holographic results (4.26) and (4.29), we recover the relations [12, 20]

$$\langle\langle \zeta(q) \zeta(-q) \rangle\rangle = \frac{-1}{8\text{Im}[B(\bar{q})]}, \quad \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(q) \hat{\gamma}^{(s')}(-q) \rangle\rangle = \frac{-\delta^{ss'}}{\text{Im}[A(\bar{q})]}, \quad (5.1)$$

where $A(\bar{q})$ and $B(\bar{q})$ are respectively the transverse traceless and trace pieces of the stress-energy tensor 2-point function as defined in (D.9).

Next, combining the results (3.7), (3.8) and (3.9) for the cosmological 3-point functions (also evaluated at late times) with the corresponding holographic results (4.27), (4.28) and (4.30), together with (3.3) and (5.1), we find

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle\langle \zeta(q_1)\zeta(q_2)\zeta(q_3) \rangle\rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{256} \left(\prod_i \text{Im}[B(\bar{q}_i)] \right)^{-1} \times \text{Im} \left[\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T(\bar{q}_2)T(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle + 4 \sum_i B(\bar{q}_i) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 2 \left(\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle + \text{cyclic perms.} \right) \right], \end{aligned} \tag{5.2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle\langle \zeta(q_1)\zeta(q_2)\hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{32} \left(\text{Im}[B(\bar{q}_1)]\text{Im}[B(\bar{q}_2)]\text{Im}[A(\bar{q}_3)] \right)^{-1} \\ & \quad \times \text{Im} \left[\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - 2(\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)B(\bar{q}_1) + \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)B(\bar{q}_2)) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 2\langle\langle \Upsilon(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - 2\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - 2\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \right], \end{aligned} \tag{5.3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle\langle \zeta(q_1)\hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2)\hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} \left(\text{Im}[B(\bar{q}_1)]\text{Im}[A(\bar{q}_2)]\text{Im}[A(\bar{q}_3)] \right)^{-1} \\ & \quad \times \text{Im} \left[\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{2}(A(\bar{q}_2) + A(\bar{q}_3))\theta^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - B(\bar{q}_1)\Theta^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 2\langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - 2\langle\langle T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3)\Upsilon^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2) \rangle\rangle - 2\langle\langle T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)\Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \right], \end{aligned} \tag{5.4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(q_1)\hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(q_2)\hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(q_3) \rangle\rangle \\ &= -\left(\prod_i \text{Im}[A(\bar{q}_i)] \right)^{-1} \times \text{Im} \left[2\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{2}\Theta^{(s_1s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \sum_i A(\bar{q}_i) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - 4 \left(\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1)\Upsilon^{(s_2s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, b\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle + \text{cyclic perms.} \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \tag{5.5}$$

The imaginary part in these formulae is taken after the analytic continuation (2.36) or (2.38) is made. Our notation for the various correlators is given in Appendix D, while the contractions of helicity tensors appearing in these formulae are given in Appendix C. The operator Υ was defined in (4.4), and its symmetry properties are discussed in Appendix D. For completeness, we have added here the formula (5.2) for the 3-point function of ζ as derived in [1].

Note that all quantities appearing on the r.h.s. of these formulae relate to the dual QFT. Each r.h.s. consists of an overall prefactor constructed from the 2-point function multiplying

a sum of the appropriate 3-point function along with various semi-local terms. The semi-local terms vanish when all operators are at separate points, but they may be non-zero if two of the operators are coincident. In the case of (5.2), it was shown in [1] that these semi-local terms contribute to ‘local’-type non-Gaussianity.

6 Discussion

In this paper we studied tree-level in-in cosmological 3-point functions for single scalar universes, including both scalar and tensor perturbations. For cosmologies that are either asymptotically dS or asymptotically power-law at late times, we showed that these 3-point functions may be re-expressed in terms of the stress-energy tensor correlation functions of a dual QFT. These holographic formulae are our main results and are collected in Section 5.

Let us first discuss the correlators appearing in these formulae from the perspective of the dual QFT. Stress-energy tensor correlation functions are defined by coupling the QFT to a background metric and then successively functionally differentiating with respect to the metric, before setting the background metric equal to the flat metric. Functionally differentiating, say, three times with respect to the background metric gives rise, in addition to the 3-point function of T_{ij} , to semi-local² and ultralocal terms since the stress-energy tensor itself depends on the background metric. The ultralocal terms are not important (except when they are related to anomalies, but there are no relevant anomalies in the case at hand) because their value can be changed at will by adding a finite local counterterm. On the other hand, semi-local terms are important. From a cosmological perspective, they may contribute to non-Gaussianity of the ‘local’ type [1]. Our holographic formulae therefore carefully include the contribution of all such terms.

Note that on the holographic side, the results presented here are the complete 3-point functions involving the stress-energy tensor. Correlation functions involving the stress-energy tensor and the scalar operator dual to the bulk scalar field follow from Ward identities [10].

We found it useful to adopt a helicity basis for the tensor perturbations. When the bulk action is helicity preserving then one only needs to specify the correlators with zero or one negative helicity graviton. The rest then follow by permutations and/or a parity transformation. Furthermore, in all single scalar inflationary models based on Einstein gravity (with canonical kinetic terms for the scalars), the ratios of the 3-point functions involving only positive helicity gravitons to their counterparts with one negative helicity graviton are universal, and are given by a ratio of momenta that is independent of the potential, see (3.16). Thus, all correlators that involve tensors are determined from those with only positive helicity gravitons.

²In semi-local terms two of the three insertion point are coincident, while in ultralocal terms all insertion points are coincident.

The holographic formulae derived here may also be used to extract predictions for holographic models of inflation in which the very early universe is in a non-geometric strongly coupled phase. To achieve this, one needs to compute the relevant QFT correlators in perturbation theory. A class of models analysed in our previous papers correspond to universes that at late times are described by a power-law geometry (where late time refers here to the end of the holographic epoch, which is also the beginning of standard hot big bang cosmology). The dual theory is described by an $SU(N)$ Yang-Mills theory coupled to massless scalars and fermions with only Yukawa-type and quartic scalar interaction terms, and the relevant leading-order computation amounts to a 1-loop computation. This computation, and the corresponding predictions for the cosmological bispectra, will be discussed elsewhere [23].

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A Gauge-invariant variables at second order

In this appendix we derive gauge-invariant definitions of the variables ζ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$. Decomposing the metric to second order as $g_{\mu\nu} = g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \delta g_{\mu\nu}$, a generic metric perturbation $\delta g_{\mu\nu}$ transforms under a gauge transformation ξ^μ as

$$\delta \check{g}_{\mu\nu} = \delta g_{\mu\nu} + \mathcal{L}_\xi g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_\xi \delta g_{\mu\nu} + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_\xi^2 g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)}. \quad (\text{A.1})$$

Note that upon setting

$$\delta g_{\mu\nu} = \lambda \delta g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \delta g_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} + O(\lambda^3), \quad \xi^\mu = \lambda \xi_{(1)}^\mu + \frac{\lambda^2}{2} \xi_{(2)}^\mu + O(\lambda^3), \quad (\text{A.2})$$

and expanding in powers of λ , (A.1) may equivalently be written [28, 29]

$$\delta \check{g}_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} = \delta g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)} + \mathcal{L}_{\xi_{(1)}} g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)}, \quad \delta \check{g}_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} = \delta g_{\mu\nu}^{(2)} + \mathcal{L}_{\xi_{(2)}} g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + \mathcal{L}_{\xi_{(1)}}^2 g_{\mu\nu}^{(0)} + 2 \mathcal{L}_{\xi_{(1)}} \delta g_{\mu\nu}^{(1)}. \quad (\text{A.3})$$

The transformed metric perturbations, as defined in (2.3) and (2.4), are then

$$\begin{aligned} \check{\phi} &= (1/2) \sigma \delta \check{g}_{00}, & \check{\nu}_i &= a^{-2} \pi_{ij} \delta \check{g}_{0j}, \\ \check{\nu} &= a^{-2} \partial^{-2} \partial_i \delta \check{g}_{0i}, & \check{\omega}_i &= a^{-2} \pi_{ij} \partial_k \partial^{-2} \delta \check{g}_{jk}, \\ \check{\psi} &= -(1/4) a^{-2} \pi_{ij} \delta \check{g}_{ij}, & \check{\gamma}_{ij} &= a^{-2} \Pi_{ijkl} \delta \check{g}_{kl}, \\ \check{\chi} &= (1/2) a^{-2} (\delta_{ij} - (3/2) \pi_{ij}) \partial^{-2} \delta \check{g}_{ij}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where the transverse and transverse traceless projection operators π_{ij} and Π_{ijkl} are defined in (2.10).

These formulae may be evaluated explicitly as required. In the following, we will need $\check{\chi}$ and $\check{\omega}_i$ to first order, and $\check{\psi}$ and $\check{\gamma}_{ij}$ to second order. Writing $\xi^\mu = (\alpha, \delta^{ij}\xi_j)$ (where ξ_i may be further decomposed as $\xi_i = \beta_{,i} + \gamma_i$, where γ_i is transverse), we find that at first order

$$\check{\chi} = \chi + \beta, \quad \check{\omega}_i = \omega_i + \gamma_i, \quad (\text{A.5})$$

while at second order

$$\check{\psi} = \psi - H\alpha - \left(\frac{\dot{H}}{2} + H^2\right)\alpha^2 - \frac{H}{2}\alpha\dot{\alpha} - \frac{H}{2}\xi_i\alpha_{,i} - \frac{1}{4}\pi_{ij}Y_{ij}, \quad (\text{A.6})$$

$$\check{\gamma}_{ij} = \gamma_{ij} + \Pi_{ijkl}Y_{kl}. \quad (\text{A.7})$$

Here, the quadratic combination

$$Y_{ij} = \alpha\dot{h}_{ij} + 2H\alpha h_{ij} + \xi_k h_{ij,k} + \frac{2}{a^2}\delta N_i\alpha_{,j} + 2\xi_{k,i}h_{jk} + \frac{\sigma}{a^2}\alpha_{,i}\alpha_{,j} + \xi_{k,i}\xi_{k,j} + 4H\alpha\xi_{i,j}. \quad (\text{A.8})$$

We will also need the transformation of the scalar field perturbation to second order,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\check{\varphi} &= \delta\varphi + \mathcal{L}_\xi\varphi + \mathcal{L}_\xi\delta\varphi + (1/2)\mathcal{L}_\xi^2\varphi \\ &= \delta\varphi + \alpha\dot{\varphi} + \alpha\delta\dot{\varphi} + \xi_i\delta\varphi_{,i} + (1/2)\ddot{\varphi}\alpha^2 + (1/2)\dot{\varphi}\alpha\dot{\alpha} + (1/2)\dot{\varphi}\xi_i\alpha_{,i}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

To identify the gauge-invariant definitions of ζ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$, we consider transforming from a general gauge to the comoving gauge in which

$$g_{ij}^{co} = a^2 e^{2\zeta} [e^{\hat{\gamma}}]_{ij} = a^2 [\delta_{ij} + (2\zeta\delta_{ij} + \hat{\gamma}_{ij}) + (2\zeta^2\delta_{ij} + 2\zeta\hat{\gamma}_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\gamma}_{ik}\hat{\gamma}_{kj})], \quad \delta\varphi^{co} = 0. \quad (\text{A.10})$$

Recalling that $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$ is transverse traceless, to first order this requires $\alpha = -\delta\varphi/\dot{\varphi}$ and $\xi_i = -(\chi_{,i} + \omega_i)$. Using these first order quantities, we may then solve (A.9) to quadratic order, whence

$$\alpha = -\frac{\delta\varphi}{\dot{\varphi}} + \frac{\delta\varphi\delta\dot{\varphi}}{2\dot{\varphi}^2} + (\chi_{,i} + \omega_i)\frac{\delta\varphi_{,i}}{2\dot{\varphi}}. \quad (\text{A.11})$$

Knowing α to second order and ξ_i to first order, we now have sufficient information to identify ψ^{co} and γ_{ij}^{co} to second order using (A.6) and (A.7). On the other hand, from (A.10), we have

$$\psi^{co} = -\zeta - \zeta^2 - \frac{1}{4}\pi_{ij}(2\zeta\hat{\gamma}_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\gamma}_{ik}\hat{\gamma}_{kj}), \quad \gamma_{ij}^{co} = \hat{\gamma}_{ij} + \Pi_{ijkl}(2\zeta\hat{\gamma}_{ij} + \frac{1}{2}\hat{\gamma}_{ik}\hat{\gamma}_{kj}), \quad (\text{A.12})$$

which, upon inverting, yields

$$\zeta = -\psi^{co} - (\psi^{co})^2 + \frac{1}{4}\pi_{ij}(2\psi^{co}\gamma_{ij}^{co} - \frac{1}{2}\gamma_{ik}^{co}\gamma_{kj}^{co}), \quad \hat{\gamma}_{ij} = \gamma_{ij}^{co} + \Pi_{ijkl}(2\psi^{co}\gamma_{kl}^{co} - \frac{1}{2}\gamma_{km}^{co}\gamma_{ml}^{co}). \quad (\text{A.13})$$

We may thus write down ζ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$ to quadratic order; the result is given in (2.7) and (2.8).

Finally, let us note that the gauge (A.10) is fully fixed: in addition to (A.11), there is a unique solution for ξ_i at quadratic order which may be obtained by evaluating $\check{\chi}$ and $\check{\omega}$ to second order and matching to (A.10). We have checked this explicitly, along with the gauge-invariance of our final expressions for ζ and $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$.

B Cubic interaction terms

Here we give the action for the perturbations to cubic order and list the various coefficients appearing in the interaction Hamiltonian. The case $\sigma = +1$ corresponds to domain-walls while $\sigma = -1$ corresponds to cosmologies.

The action is given by

$$S = \int d^4x (\mathcal{L}^{(2)} + \mathcal{L}^{(3)}), \quad \mathcal{L}^{(3)} = \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\zeta\zeta} + \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}} + \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} + \mathcal{L}_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa^2 \mathcal{L}^{(2)} &= a^3 \epsilon \dot{\zeta}^2 + \sigma a \epsilon (\partial \zeta)^2 + \frac{a^3}{8} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} + \frac{\sigma a}{8} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k}, \\ \kappa^2 \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\zeta\zeta} &= -\frac{a^3 \epsilon}{H} \dot{\zeta}^3 + 3a^3 \epsilon \dot{\zeta} \dot{\zeta}^2 + \sigma a \epsilon \zeta (\partial \zeta)^2 - 2a^3 \zeta_{,k} \hat{\nu}_{,k} \partial^2 \hat{\nu} - \frac{a^3}{2} \left(\frac{\dot{\zeta}}{H} - 3\zeta \right) (\hat{\nu}_{,ij} \hat{\nu}_{,ij} - \partial^2 \hat{\nu} \partial^2 \hat{\nu}), \\ \kappa^2 \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}} &= \frac{2\sigma a}{H} \hat{\gamma}_{ij} \dot{\zeta}_{,i} \zeta_{,j} + \sigma a \hat{\gamma}_{ij} \zeta_{,i} \zeta_{,j} - \frac{a^3}{2} \left(3\zeta - \frac{\dot{\zeta}}{H} \right) \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} \hat{\nu}_{ij} + \frac{a^3}{2} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \hat{\nu}_{ij} \hat{\nu}_{,k}, \\ \kappa^2 \mathcal{L}_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} &= \frac{a^3}{8} \left(3\zeta - \frac{\dot{\zeta}}{H} \right) \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} + \frac{\sigma a}{8} \left(\zeta + \frac{\dot{\zeta}}{H} \right) \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} - \frac{a^3 \epsilon}{4} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \partial^{-2} \dot{\zeta}_{,k} - \frac{\sigma a}{4H} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \zeta_{,k}, \\ \kappa^2 \mathcal{L}_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}} &= \frac{\sigma a}{8} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,l} \hat{\gamma}_{kl} - \frac{\sigma a}{4} \hat{\gamma}_{ij,k} \hat{\gamma}_{kl} \hat{\gamma}_{li,j}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.2})$$

where $\hat{\nu} = \epsilon \partial^{-2} \dot{\zeta} + (\sigma/a^2 H) \zeta$ and $\epsilon = -\dot{H}/H^2$. (Note however we are not assuming slow-roll).

From the action we may derive the cubic interaction Hamiltonian. The coefficients associated with $H_{\zeta\zeta\hat{\gamma}}$ defined in (2.17) are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_3)} &= \left(\frac{q_3^2}{4aH^2} - \sigma a \right) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), & \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_3)} &= \left(\frac{3}{a^3 q_2^2} + \frac{\sigma}{a^5 \epsilon H^2} \right) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), \\ \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_3)} &= -\frac{6\sigma}{a^2 H} \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), & \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_3)} &= \frac{q_3^2}{16a^3 q_1^2 q_2^2} \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), \\ \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_3)} &= -\frac{\sigma}{a^2 H} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} + \frac{q_3^2}{4q_2^2} \right) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), & \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_3)} &= -\frac{1}{4a^6 \epsilon H} \left(\frac{1}{q_1^2} + \frac{1}{q_2^2} \right) \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i), \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.3})$$

where the shorthand $\mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_3)}$ should be understood as $\mathcal{A}^{(s_3)}(q_1, q_2, q_3)$, *etc.*. In these expressions, and in those below, $\theta^{(s_3)}(q_i)$, $\theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ and $\theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i)$ denote specific contractions of helicity tensors which are given in Appendix C. (Note they are equivalent to real functions of the magnitudes q_i and the helicities s_i). The coefficients associated with $H_{\zeta\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}$ defined in (2.18) are

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} &= \frac{\sigma a}{16} (q_1^2 - q_2^2 - q_3^2) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i), & \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} &= \frac{\sigma}{32a^2 \epsilon H} (q_1^2 - q_2^2 - q_3^2) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i), \\ \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} &= \frac{\sigma}{2a^2 H} (q_1^2 + q_2^2 - q_3^2) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i), & \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} &= \frac{1}{4a^3 q_1^2} (q_3^2 - q_1^2 - q_2^2) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i), \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} = -\frac{6}{a^3} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i), \quad \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} = \frac{1}{a^6 \epsilon H} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i). \quad (\text{B.4})$$

Finally, the single coefficient appearing in (2.19) for $H_{\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}\hat{\gamma}}$ is

$$\mathcal{A}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i) = \frac{\sigma a}{24} \theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i). \quad (\text{B.5})$$

C Helicity tensors

This appendix summarises our notation for the various contractions of helicity tensors that appear in the main text. We also give explicit formulae for these contractions in terms of the magnitudes q_i of the momenta and the helicities s_i .

The contractions appearing in the cubic interaction Hamiltonian are

$$\begin{aligned} \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i) &= \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) q_1^i q_1^j = \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) q_2^i q_2^j, \\ \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i) &= \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3), \\ \theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i) &= \epsilon_{ii'}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1) \epsilon_{jj'}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{kk'}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) t_{ijk} t_{i'j'k'}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.1})$$

where $t_{ijk} = \delta_{ij} q_{1k} + \delta_{jk} q_{2i} + \delta_{ki} q_{3j}$. In addition, the following contractions arise in the holographic analysis

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) &= \pi_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3), & \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) &= \pi_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \epsilon_{ik}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{kj}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3), \\ \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) &= \pi_{ij}(\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3), & \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) &= \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1) \epsilon_{jk}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{ki}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.2})$$

To evaluate these contractions explicitly, it is useful to introduce an explicit basis of helicity tensors. The analysis is simplified by the fact that all momenta lie in a single plane due to momentum conservation. Taking this plane to be the (x, y) plane, we have

$$\vec{q}_1 = q_1 (1, 0, 0), \quad \vec{q}_2 = q_2 (\cos \theta, \sin \theta, 0), \quad \vec{q}_3 = q_3 (\cos \phi, \sin \phi, 0), \quad (\text{C.3})$$

where the magnitudes $q_i \geq 0$, and without loss of generality we may choose $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$ and $\pi \leq \phi \leq 2\pi$ so that

$$\cos \theta = \frac{(q_3^2 - q_1^2 - q_2^2)}{2q_1 q_2}, \quad \sin \theta = \frac{\lambda}{2q_1 q_2}, \quad \cos \phi = \frac{(q_2^2 - q_1^2 - q_3^2)}{2q_1 q_3}, \quad \sin \phi = -\frac{\lambda}{2q_1 q_3}, \quad (\text{C.4})$$

where

$$\lambda = +\sqrt{2q_1^2 q_2^2 + 2q_2^2 q_3^2 + 2q_3^2 q_1^2 - q_1^4 - q_2^4 - q_3^4}. \quad (\text{C.5})$$

The required helicity tensors may then be found by rotation in the (x, y) plane:

$$\epsilon^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & i s_1 \\ 0 & i s_1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \epsilon^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sin^2 \theta & -\sin \theta \cos \theta & -i s_2 \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta \cos \theta & \cos^2 \theta & i s_2 \cos \theta \\ -i s_2 \sin \theta & i s_2 \cos \theta & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\epsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} \sin^2 \phi & -\sin \phi \cos \phi & -is_3 \sin \phi \\ -\sin \phi \cos \phi & \cos^2 \phi & is_3 \cos \phi \\ -is_3 \sin \phi & is_3 \cos \phi & -1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (\text{C.6})$$

Here, the helicities s_i take values ± 1 , and our conventions for $\epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1)$ are those of [30] (see p. 233). Note the helicity matrices satisfy the standard identities

$$\Pi_{ijkl}(\vec{q}) = \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(\vec{q}) \epsilon_{kl}^{(s)}(-\vec{q}), \quad \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(\vec{q}) \epsilon_{ij}^{(s')}(-\vec{q}) = 2\delta^{ss'}. \quad (\text{C.7})$$

Defining

$$S_1 = -q_1^2 + (s_2 q_2 + s_3 q_3)^2, \quad S_2 = -q_2^2 + (s_3 q_3 + s_1 q_1)^2, \quad S_3 = -q_3^2 + (s_1 q_1 + s_2 q_2)^2, \quad (\text{C.8})$$

we then find

$$\begin{aligned} \theta^{(s_3)}(q_i) &= \frac{\lambda^2}{4\sqrt{2}q_3^2}, & \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i) &= \frac{1}{8q_2^2 q_3^2} S_1^2, \\ \theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i) &= \frac{\lambda^2}{32\sqrt{2}q_1^2 q_2^2 q_3^2} (S_1 + S_2 + S_3)^2 = \frac{\lambda^2}{32\sqrt{2}q_1^2 q_2^2 q_3^2} (s_1 q_1 + s_2 q_2 + s_3 q_3)^4, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.9})$$

and similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(q_i) &= -\frac{\lambda^2}{4\sqrt{2}q_1^2 q_3^2}, & \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(q_i) &= -\frac{\lambda^2}{4\sqrt{2}q_2^2 q_3^2}, \\ \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(q_i) &= \frac{1}{8q_2^2 q_3^2} S_1^2 - \frac{\lambda^2}{16q_1^2 q_2^2 q_3^2} S_1, & \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(q_i) &= -\frac{1}{16\sqrt{2}q_1^2 q_2^2 q_3^2} S_1 S_2 S_3. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.10})$$

D Notation for correlators and integration measures

In this section we collect together various notational devices we use throughout the main text.

Firstly, the measures appearing in momentum space integrals are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} [dq] &= (2\pi)^{-3} d^3 \vec{q}, & [[dq_2 dq_3]] &= (2\pi)^3 \delta\left(\sum_i \vec{q}_i\right) [dq_2] [dq_3], \\ [[dq_1 dq_2 dq_3]] &= (2\pi)^3 \delta\left(\sum_i \vec{q}_i\right) [dq_1] [dq_2] [dq_3]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.1})$$

Secondly, we use a double bracket notation for correlators designed to suppress the appearance of delta functions associated with overall momentum conservation in our formulae. For cosmological correlators, we define

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \zeta(z, \vec{q}) \zeta(z, \vec{q}') \rangle &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{q} + \vec{q}') \langle\langle \zeta(z, q) \zeta(z, -q) \rangle\rangle, \\ \langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(z, \vec{q}) \hat{\gamma}^{(s')}(z, \vec{q}') \rangle &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{q} + \vec{q}') \langle\langle \hat{\gamma}^{(s)}(z, q) \hat{\gamma}^{(s')}(z, -q) \rangle\rangle, \\ \langle \zeta(z, q_1) \zeta(z, q_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, q_3) \rangle &= (2\pi)^2 \delta\left(\sum_i \vec{q}_i\right) \langle\langle \zeta(z, \vec{q}_1) \zeta(z, \vec{q}_2) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(z, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.2})$$

and similarly for stress-energy tensor correlators,

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) \rangle &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\vec{q}_1 + \vec{q}_2) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(-\vec{q}_1) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\sum \vec{q}_i) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle &= (2\pi)^3 \delta(\sum \vec{q}_i) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle.
\end{aligned} \tag{D.3}$$

Finally, it is useful to have a shorthand notation for the various components of the stress-energy tensor 3-point function. For this, we write

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) T(\vec{q}_2) T(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \delta_{mn} \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) T(\vec{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) T^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{4} \delta_{ij} \epsilon_{kl}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) T^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{8} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1) \epsilon_{kl}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) T_{kl}(\vec{q}_2) T_{mn}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle,
\end{aligned} \tag{D.4}$$

while similarly for the semi-local terms

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \delta_{mn} \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{mnkl}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle \\
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{4} \delta_{ij} \epsilon_{kl}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle
\end{aligned} \tag{D.5}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1) \delta_{kl} \delta_{mn} \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\
\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \delta_{kl} \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\
\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \delta_{kl} \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{mnkl}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle \\
\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{8} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s_1)}(-\vec{q}_1) \epsilon_{kl}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \epsilon_{mn}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon_{klmn}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle.
\end{aligned} \tag{D.6}$$

Note in particular that, from (4.4), correlators involving $\Upsilon(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3)$ and $\Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3)$ are symmetric under exchange of \vec{q}_2 and \vec{q}_3 ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle, \\
\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3 s_2)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle = \langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3 s_2)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_2) \rangle\rangle, \quad (\text{D.7})$$

whereas those involving $\Upsilon^{(s_3)}$ are not:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_2) \rangle\rangle - \frac{3}{8} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) T(-\bar{q}_1) \rangle\rangle, \\ \langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle &= \langle\langle T^{(s_1)}(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_2) \rangle\rangle - \frac{3}{8} \theta^{(s_1 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) A(\bar{q}_1). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.8})$$

In these equations, $\theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)$ and $\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)$ are as defined in (C.1), while $A(\bar{q})$ is the transverse traceless part of the stress-energy tensor 2-point function:

$$\langle\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q}) T_{kl}(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle = A(\bar{q}) \Pi_{ijkl} + B(\bar{q}) \pi_{ij} \pi_{kl}. \quad (\text{D.9})$$

From this standard result it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle\langle T(\bar{q}) T(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle &= \delta_{ij} \delta_{kl} \langle\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q}) T_{kl}(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle = 4B(\bar{q}), \\ \langle\langle T^{(s)}(\bar{q}) T(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(-\bar{q}) \delta_{kl} \langle\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q}) T_{kl}(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle = 0, \\ \langle\langle T^{(s)}(\bar{q}) T^{(s')}(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle &= \frac{1}{4} \epsilon_{ij}^{(s)}(-\bar{q}) \epsilon_{kl}^{(s')}(\bar{q}) \langle\langle T_{ij}(\bar{q}) T_{kl}(-\bar{q}) \rangle\rangle = \frac{1}{2} A(\bar{q}) \delta^{ss'}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{D.10})$$

E Constraint equations

In this appendix, we present the domain-wall Hamiltonian and momentum constraint equations to quadratic order, as required for our holographic calculations. We work in synchronous (Fefferman-Graham) gauge where $N_i = 0$ and $N = 1$. (For results including a non-zero lapse perturbation as required for the asymptotically power-law case please see [1]).

The full Hamiltonian constraint reads

$$0 = -R + K^2 - K_{ij} K^{ij} + 2\bar{\kappa}^2 V - N^{-2} \dot{\Phi}^2 + g^{ij} \Phi_{,i} \Phi_{,j}, \quad (\text{E.1})$$

where $K_{ij} = (1/2N) \dot{g}_{ij}$ is the extrinsic curvature of constant- z slices. Expanding to quadratic order, we find

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= -4a^{-2} \partial^2 \psi + 2H \dot{h} - 2\dot{\varphi} \delta \dot{\varphi} + 2\bar{\kappa}^2 V' \delta \varphi \\ &\quad - R_{(2)} + \frac{1}{4} \dot{h}^2 - \frac{1}{4} \dot{h}_{ij} \dot{h}_{ij} - 2H h_{ij} \dot{h}_{ij} - \delta \dot{\varphi}^2 + \bar{\kappa}^2 V'' \delta \varphi^2 + a^{-2} \delta \varphi_{,i} \delta \varphi_{,i}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E.2})$$

where repeated covariant indices are to be summed over using the Kronecker delta, and $h \equiv h_{ii}$. For the purposes of our holographic calculations, we will not need to evaluate $R_{(2)}$ explicitly.

Similarly, the momentum constraint

$$0 = \nabla_j (K_i^j - \delta_i^j K) - N^{-1} \dot{\Phi} \Phi_{,i}, \quad (\text{E.3})$$

yields

$$0 = \dot{h}_{ij,j} - \dot{h}_{,i} - 2\dot{\varphi}\delta\varphi_{,i} + \frac{1}{2}h_{,j}\dot{h}_{ji} - \frac{1}{2}\dot{h}_{jk}h_{jk,i} - 2\delta\dot{\varphi}\delta\varphi_{,i} + (h_{jk}\dot{h}_{jk})_{,i} - (h_{jk}\dot{h}_{ki})_{,j} \quad (\text{E.4})$$

when expanded to quadratic order. Extracting the scalar part by acting with $\partial^{-2}\partial_i$, we find

$$0 = 2\dot{\psi} - \dot{\varphi}\delta\varphi + \frac{1}{2}h_{jk}\dot{h}_{jk} + \partial^{-2}\partial_i \left[\frac{1}{4}(h_{,j}\dot{h}_{ji} - \dot{h}_{jk}h_{jk,i}) - \frac{1}{2}(h_{jk}\dot{h}_{ki})_{,j} - \delta\dot{\varphi}\delta\varphi_{,i} \right]. \quad (\text{E.5})$$

F Holographic analysis continued

Here we present the remaining part of the holographic analysis not covered in Section 4.2. The quantities $\Theta_1^{(s_3)}$, $\Theta_2^{(s_3)}$, $\Theta^{(s_2s_3)}$ and $\Theta^{(s_2s_3s_3)}$, as well as $\theta^{(s_3)}$, $\theta^{(s_2s_3)}$ and $\theta^{(s_2s_3s_3)}$ are defined in Appendix C. Our conventions for correlators and momentum space integration measures are given in Appendix D.

F.1 Cross-check for $\langle TTT^{(s)} \rangle$

In this subsection, we expand $\delta\langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s$ to quadratic order and compute the coefficient of the $\psi(-\vec{q}_2)\psi(-\vec{q}_3)$ term. This calculation serves as a useful and nontrivial cross-check of our earlier result (4.28) for $\langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1)T(\vec{q}_2)T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle$.

We start by setting the sources to $h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$. From (4.10), using (4.15), we then have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s = \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \Big[& -\frac{1}{2}\dot{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\vec{q}_1 d\vec{q}_2]] \left[\frac{1}{4a^3} \left(\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{1}{a^2 H} \theta^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_1)\psi(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \Big]_{(3)}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.1})$$

From the definition (2.8) of the gauge-invariant variable $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$, in synchronous gauge we have

$$\hat{\gamma}_{ij} = \gamma_{ij} + \dots \quad (\text{F.2})$$

$$\dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} = \dot{\gamma}_{ij} + \Pi_{ijkl} \left[-\frac{\delta\dot{\varphi}}{\dot{\varphi}}\dot{h}_{kl} - 2(\dot{\chi}_{,mk} + \dot{\omega}_{m,k})(-2\psi\delta_{ml}) + 2\psi\dot{\gamma}_{kl} \right] + \dots \quad (\text{F.3})$$

where we have omitted terms that vanish when the sources are restricted to $h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$. Applying (4.15) to the quadratic terms, we find

$$\hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) = \gamma^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \dots \quad (\text{F.4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) = \dot{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\vec{q}_1 d\vec{q}_2]] \Big[& \frac{1}{8a^6\epsilon H} \left(\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) + \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1)\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \\ & + \frac{1}{4a^5\epsilon H^2} \theta^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) (\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2)) - \frac{1}{2a^3} \left(\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i)\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$- \frac{2}{a^2 H} \theta^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \Big] \times \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \psi(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \quad (\text{F.5})$$

On the other hand, from Hamilton's equations (2.20), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) &= \frac{4}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \gamma^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\vec{q}_1 d\vec{q}_2]] \left[\frac{4}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_3)} + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{D}_{213}^{(s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \psi(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.6})$$

where we used (F.4) and the fact that $\zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \zeta(-\vec{q}_2) = \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \psi(-\vec{q}_2)$ with the source $\delta\varphi$ set to zero. Solving (F.5) and (F.6) for $\dot{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)$, and inserting into (F.1), after cancellations we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s &= \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \left[- \frac{2}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \gamma^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\vec{q}_1 d\vec{q}_2]] \left[- \frac{2}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[3]}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{3}{8a^3} \left(\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right) + \frac{3}{2a^2 H} \theta^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \psi(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \right]_{(3)}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.7})$$

Here, the last term is an ultralocal contact term (it is finite under sending any of the \vec{q}_i to zero) and so we discard it. We therefore obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s &= -2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\vec{q}_3) \gamma_{(0)}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\vec{q}_1 d\vec{q}_2]] \left[- 2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[3](0)}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{3}{8} \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \left(\Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right) \right] \psi_{(0)}(-\vec{q}_1) \psi_{(0)}(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.8})$$

Comparing with (4.7) (after a suitable permutation), we recover (4.29) and the result

$$\begin{aligned} -4\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[3](0)}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3, \vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) &= \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) T(\vec{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{2} \Theta_1^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) T(-\vec{q}_1) \rangle\rangle \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \Theta_2^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_2) T(-\vec{q}_2) \rangle\rangle - 2 \langle\langle \Upsilon(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\ &\quad - 2 \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_2, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - 2 \langle\langle T(\vec{q}_2) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_1, \vec{q}_3) \rangle\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.9})$$

From (2.35), we see that this result agrees perfectly with (4.27) in Section 4.2.

F.2 Computation of $\langle T T^{(s)} T^{(s)} \rangle$

As noted in Section 4.2, there are two ways of calculating this 3-point function. The first method is to expand $\delta \langle T_i^i(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s$ to quadratic order in $\gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3)$, while the second is to expand $\delta \langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s$ to quadratic order in $\psi(-\vec{q}_1) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2)$. The results from both methods should agree.

(i) *First method*

Here we set the sources to $h_{ij} = \gamma_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$. Examining the momentum constraint, using (4.15) to replace momenta in quadratic terms, we find

$$(\dot{h} - h_{ij}\dot{h}_{ij})(\vec{q}_1) = \frac{\dot{\varphi}}{H}\delta\varphi(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \frac{2}{a^6 H} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \gamma^{(s_2)}(\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \quad (\text{F.10})$$

From the definition of ζ in (2.7), we have

$$\zeta(\vec{q}_1) = -\frac{1}{8} \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots, \quad (\text{F.11})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}_1) &= -\dot{\psi}(\vec{q}_1) - \frac{H}{\dot{\varphi}} \delta\varphi(\vec{q}_1) \\ &\quad - \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \frac{1}{2a^3} (\bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) + \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3)) \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.12})$$

On the other hand, Hamilton's equation (2.26) combined with (F.11) yields

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\zeta}(\vec{q}_1) &= \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \left[\frac{1}{2a^3 \epsilon} \bar{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) - \frac{1}{16a^3 \epsilon} \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) + \mathcal{D}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_{132}^{(s_3 s_2)} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) + \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) \right] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.13})$$

where the coefficients appearing in this equation are defined in (B.4).

The momentum constraint (E.5), after applying (4.15) to the quadratic terms, reads

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\psi}(\vec{q}_1) &= \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \left[-\frac{1}{2a^3} (\bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) + \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3)) \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{4a^3 \vec{q}_1^2} \left((\vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_2) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_3) + (\vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_3) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_2) \right) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.14})$$

Combining (F.10), (F.11), (F.13) and (F.14), we find

$$\begin{aligned} (\dot{h} - h_{ij}\dot{h}_{ij})(\vec{q}_1) &= \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \left[-\frac{1}{a^3} \bar{\Omega}_{[3]}^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) + \frac{1}{8a^3} \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\vec{q}_1) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{1}{8a^2 H} (\vec{q}_2 \cdot \vec{q}_3) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.15})$$

The last term in this expression is an ultralocal contact term (it is finite upon taking any of the \vec{q}_i to zero) and so may be discarded. We then find

$$\delta \langle T_i^i(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s = \int [[d\vec{q}_2 d\vec{q}_3]] \left[-\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[3](0)}^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) + \frac{1}{8} \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{\Omega}_{[2](0)}(\vec{q}_1) \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\vec{q}_i) \right] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \quad (\text{F.16})$$

Comparing with (4.6), we then recover the result (4.28) given in Section 4.2.

(ii) *Second method*

In this calculation we set the sources to $h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$, and collect all quadratic terms of the form $\psi(-\vec{q}_1)\gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2)$.

Beginning with (4.10) and replacing the quadratic terms with (4.15), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s = & \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \dot{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\bar{q}_1 d\bar{q}_2]] \left[-\frac{2}{a^3} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) \right. \right. \\ & \left. \left. + \frac{1}{4} (\theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)) \left(\frac{\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1)}{a^3} - \frac{2\bar{q}_1^2}{a^2 H} \right) \right] \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \right]_{(3)} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.17})$$

From the definition of $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$, (2.8), evaluated in synchronous gauge,

$$\hat{\gamma}_{ij} = \gamma_{ij} + \Pi_{ijkl} [2\psi\gamma_{kl}] + \dots, \quad (\text{F.18})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}_{ij} = & \dot{\gamma}_{ij} + \Pi_{ijkl} \left[-\frac{\delta\dot{\varphi}}{\dot{\varphi}} \dot{h}_{kl} - 2(\dot{\chi}_{,mk} + \dot{\omega}_{m,k})(-2\psi\delta_{ml} + \gamma_{ml}) - (\dot{\chi}_{,m} + \dot{\omega}_m)(-2\psi_{,m}\delta_{kl} + \gamma_{kl,m}) \right. \\ & \left. + 2\psi\dot{\gamma}_{kl} + 2\psi\dot{\gamma}_{kl} - \dot{\gamma}_{km}\gamma_{ml} \right] + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.19})$$

where we omit terms that vanish when setting the sources to $h_{ij} = -2\psi\delta_{ij} + \gamma_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$. Replacing the quadratic terms in momentum space using (4.15), we obtain

$$\hat{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) = \gamma^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\bar{q}_1 d\bar{q}_2]] \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \quad (\text{F.20})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) = & \dot{\gamma}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\bar{q}_1 d\bar{q}_2]] \left[\frac{4}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \frac{1}{a^6 \epsilon H} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \right. \\ & \left. - \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1)}{a^3} - \frac{2\bar{q}_1^2}{a^2 H} \right) \left(\frac{(\vec{q}_1 \cdot \vec{q}_2)}{\bar{q}_1^2} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) + 2(\theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i)) \right) \right] \\ & \times \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.21})$$

On the other hand, from Hamilton's equations (2.20), along with (2.21), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) = & \frac{4}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3) \gamma^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\bar{q}_1 d\bar{q}_2]] \left[-\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{B}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} - \mathcal{C}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) - \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \right. \\ & \left. - \mathcal{F}_{123}^{(s_2 s_3)} \bar{\Omega}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) - \frac{4}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[3]}^{(s_3 s_2)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2) + \frac{4}{a^3} \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3) \right] \\ & \times \psi(-\vec{q}_1) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.22})$$

where we also used (F.20) and the fact that $\zeta(-\vec{q}_1) \hat{\gamma}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) = -\psi(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2)$ when $\delta\varphi = 0$. Solving (F.21) and (F.22) for $\dot{\hat{\gamma}}^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3)$ and backsubstituting into (F.17), we find

$$\begin{aligned} \delta\langle T^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) \rangle_s = & -2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_3) \gamma^{(s_3)}(\vec{q}_3) + \int [[d\bar{q}_1 d\bar{q}_2]] \left[2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[3](0)}^{(s_3 s_2)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2) \right. \\ & \left. - \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \bar{\kappa}^{-2} (2\bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_3) + 3\bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_2)) \right] \psi_{(0)}(-\vec{q}_1) \gamma_{(0)}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) + \dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{F.23})$$

Comparing with (4.7), we recover (4.29) and find

$$\begin{aligned}
-\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[3](0)}^{(s_3 s_2)}(\bar{q}_3, \bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2) &= \frac{1}{2} \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2) T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - \frac{1}{4} (A(\bar{q}_2) + A(\bar{q}_3)) \theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{8} \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) T(-\bar{q}_1) \rangle\rangle \Theta^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \langle\langle T(\bar{q}_1) \Upsilon^{(s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_2, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle \\
&\quad - \langle\langle T^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_2) \Upsilon^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_3) \rangle\rangle - \langle\langle T^{(s_3)}(\bar{q}_3) \Upsilon^{(s_2)}(\bar{q}_1, \bar{q}_2) \rangle\rangle. \quad (\text{F.24})
\end{aligned}$$

From (2.35), this result agrees with (4.28) from the previous subsection. The two calculations are therefore consistent providing once again a useful and nontrivial cross-check.

F.3 Computation of $\langle T^{(s)} T^{(s)} T^{(s)} \rangle$

Here we need to expand $\delta \langle T^{(s_1)} \rangle_s$ to quadratic order and obtain the coefficient of the $\gamma^{(s_2)} \gamma^{(s_3)}$ term. We will therefore set the sources to $h_{ij} = \gamma_{ij}$ and $\delta\varphi = 0$ in the following. From (4.10) and (4.15), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta \langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s &= \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \dot{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \frac{1}{2a^3} (\bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) + \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3)) \right. \\
&\quad \left. \times \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \right]_{(3)}. \quad (\text{F.25})
\end{aligned}$$

From the definition (2.8) of the gauge-invariant variable $\hat{\gamma}_{ij}$, however, in synchronous gauge we have

$$\hat{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) = \gamma^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) - \frac{1}{4} \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots, \quad (\text{F.26})$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) &= \dot{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) - \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \frac{1}{a^3} (\bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_2) + \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_3)) \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \\
&\quad (\text{F.27})
\end{aligned}$$

where in the last line we used (4.15) to replace the $\dot{\gamma}$ in the quadratic term.

Hamilton's equations (2.20), when combined with (2.21), give us

$$\begin{aligned}
\dot{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) &= \frac{4}{a^3} \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \gamma^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \\
&\quad + \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \frac{1}{a^3} \left[4 \bar{E}_{[3]}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) - \bar{E}_{[2]}(\bar{q}_1) \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \right] \gamma^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \\
&\quad (\text{F.28})
\end{aligned}$$

where we additionally made use of (F.26). Equating with (F.27) we may solve for $\dot{\gamma}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1)$, whence

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta \langle T^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) \rangle_s &= -2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_1) \gamma_{(0)}^{(s_1)}(\vec{q}_1) + \int [[d\bar{q}_2 d\bar{q}_3]] \left[-2\bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[3](0)}^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\kappa}^{-2} \bar{E}_{[2](0)}(\bar{q}_1) \Theta^{(s_1 s_2 s_3)}(\bar{q}_i) \right] \gamma_{(0)}^{(s_2)}(-\vec{q}_2) \gamma_{(0)}^{(s_3)}(-\vec{q}_3) + \dots \quad (\text{F.29})
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, comparing with the relevant portion of (4.7), we recover (4.29) and the result (4.30) presented in Section 4.2.

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